Case 1:12-cv-01422-JSR Document 307 Filed 10/29/13 Page 1 of 174 3302 u DAM3BAN1

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	
Plaintiff,	
V.	12 CV 1422 (JSR)
BANK OF AMERICA CORPORATION, successor to Countrywide Financial Corporation, Countrywide Home Loans, Inc.,	
and Full Spectrum Lending, et al.,	
Defendants.	
x	New York, N.Y. October 22, 2013 9:30 a.m.
Before:	
HON. JED S.	RAKOFF,
	District Judge

DAM3BAN1

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1 (In open court; jury not present)

THE COURT: Ms. Nawaday, do you want to take a break midway through your summation or not?

MS. NAWADAY: I would prefer not to, your Honor.

THE COURT: All right.

MR. ARMAND: There may be a microphone that goes with the podium. I noticed it over there. Would it be possible to put it on the podium?

THE COURT: That's the interpreter's microphone.

(Jury present)

THE COURT: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. We are now about to hear closing arguments of counsel. I want to remind you, as I did before opening statements, that nothing that counsel says is evidence. The evidence which is now fully before you came from the witnesses, from the few exhibits, from the stipulations that we occasionally had when the parties agreed to a fact. There was also a few times when you were read what are called legal admissions, formal admissions. That is like a stipulation. Those are the only sources of evidence.

But now that the evidence is fully before you, it may be useful for you to hear what each side believes the evidence shows or fails to show. Obviously they are going to disagree on what they think the evidence shows or fails to show, but it may be useful to consider their arguments, their insights, their perspective, before you undertake the job of forming your

1 | own opinions in this case.

Now, the whole day is going to be taken up with these closing arguments. The government begins their allotted two hours and 10 minutes. We'll then take a midmorning break. The bank defendants are allotted two hours. They'll take one hour before lunch and one hour after lunch. Then Ms. Mairone's counsel will take an hour. And finally there will be a short 20 minute rebuttal from the government. So we have a full day in front of us.

So let's begin with counsel from the government.

MS. NAWADAY: Thank you, your Honor.

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Jaimie Nawaday and I represent the United States.

After four weeks of evidence and testimony, this is still a case about greed and lies. It is about people at Countrywide saying to each other that their loan quality is in the ditch, while telling Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac that their loans are investment quality. It is about rolling out a new business model called the Hustle, in the midst of a financial crisis to make a quick profit at the expense of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

The Hustle was all about speed, lightning speed and volume, and never about quality.

As we told you, the Hustle sidelined the underwriters in favor of loan specialists, who were entry-level clerks

pushed and paid and even ranked based on achieving funding goals and speed goals. They weren't paid based on quality. They weren't punished based on quality. And they weren't ranked on quality.

In fact, when the reports on Hustle loans showed that they were of terrible quality, the loan specialists stopped being told about quality all together. Defendants saw quality as a distraction from the goal of funding. Something that slowed down the work of loan specialists.

So while Countrywide managers discussed the bad quality reports among themselves, they told the loan specialists to keep funding the loans.

As the defect rates on those loans rose higher and higher, Countrywide managers set up funding contests for loan specialists, pushing them to fund loans at lightning speed. Funding contests, but not quality contests. They sold those loans to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac with lies that they were investment quality loans. That's why we're here. That's what we've shown, and that is fraud, ladies and gentlemen.

Mr. Armand promised you in his opening statement that we would demonstrate the fraud, that we would demonstrate that the Hustle was about speed and volume and not about quality, that we would demonstrate that Hustle loans were sold with lies about their quality. We've proven these facts. We made promises to you and we kept them.

How did we show you that the Hustle was all about speed and volume? We showed you how the Hustle swapped out underwriters for loan specialists, entry-level clerks with little to no mortgage industry experience. We showed you the Hustle turn time goal of 15 days. 15 days to move a loan from application to funding. We showed you the funding goals of 30 loans per loan specialist per month or one loan a day. And we showed you why the loan specialists were striving to hit these goals, because they were pressured to hit them and they were paid to hit them. But they weren't paid anything for quality. And for six months their pay was never hit for bad quality.

And who is pushing for this? The chief operating officer, Rebecca Mairone. And why did Countrywide push for this model? Greed. Because Countrywide doesn't hold on to the loans it makes. It originates them, and then it sells them. And the more quickly it does this, the more quickly it gets paid. So it unloaded Hustle loans as fast as possible to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the only major purchasers of Countrywide loans in 2007 and 2008.

But Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac couldn't possibly inspect all those loans before buying them. They rely on lenders to inspect the loans, to underwrite them, and represent that the loans are investment quality. In the case of Hustle loan, those representations were lies and defendants knew it.

As we showed you, defendants knew the Hustle process

fantastic.

would lead to poor quality loans. Employees told them so and their own reports told them so. But Mairone and others at Countrywide gave the direction to pursue profit instead. So while warnings were raised, and bad quality reports rolled in, defendants expanded the Hustle. They added volume and they added riskier loans, and Mairone and others looked at the production reports on those loans and said they were looking

Those reports show that they were hitting their speed goals. But the quality reports told a different story. Week after week, they showed defect rates on the loans climbing, at one point to more than 90 percent. But defendants didn't want to hear about those reports. The speed and the funding reports looked too good. So they keep the focus on funding. They sent out daily funding reports to hold loan specialists accountable for production targets. Accountable for production targets, but again, the quality reports were a different story. Those stopped going out to loan specialists. They were called a distraction. That's how we know this was about speed and volume and not quality.

And although they claim they continued to track the quality by each employee, we know that isn't true. We showed you charts of loan specialists and other employees where everyone was ranked on turn time and everyone one was ranked on fundings. Remember what they showed on quality? On quality

everyone was ranked number one.

The employee warnings and the quality assurance reports were right in predicting disaster. Bad quality assurance reports turned into bad quality control reports the next quarter. They showed that the loans that went out the door as investment quality loans to Fannie and Freddie had material defect rates or severely unsatisfactory rates of approximately 30 percent. According to Countrywide's own reports, one out of every three loans they were selling to Fannie and Freddie were not investment quality.

How did defendants respond? By starting contests to fund more loans and contests to rebut defect findings. Quality had become a joke.

The experts in this case confirmed that quality was a joke. Our experts told that you more than 43 percent of the loans sold to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were materially defective and should never have been sold as investment quality.

And what did the defense underwriting expert tell you about the loans? Do you remember? He can't tell you anything about the loans. He wasn't even allowed to really look at them. His only job was to rebut the defect findings made by our expert. You've heard something like that before.

Something that Countrywide did with high defect rates in 2008. It was called the sprint incentive. Paying people to drive

down defect rates. That's what they did in 2008 and that's what they're doing today.

But this was no joke to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac who were lied to about the quality of the loans. And it was no joke to borrowers who were given those loans for their homes.

Greed and lies have consequences.

And now that all the evidence has come in, this case still comes down to a few simple facts. First, the Hustle loans were bad. Second, the defendants knew the Hustle loans were bad. And third, the defendants passed the Hustle loans off as good loans anyway to cheat Fannie and Freddie out of money. And we've proven those facts to you as promised.

Contrast the promises we made and the evidence that supports them against the promises made to you by defense counsel in their openings.

At the beginning of this case, defense counsel promised that when you see the documents, and you hear the witnesses, you would find the focus on quality and correcting quality problems almost overwhelming. They also promised you that everything Ms. Mairone did was the opposite of somebody who wanted to sell bad loans to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. These were bold promises, but they haven't kept them. The evidence does not support them.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is my opportunity to review some of the evidence that you've heard at trial. Before I go

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any further, I am going to give you a short roadmap of what I'll be talking about this morning.

First I am going to go over briefly what the government must prove. Second, I am going to review the evidence you've heard and seen and how that evidence proves the government's fraud claims. And while I go through the evidence, I'll address some of the arguments I expect defense counsel will raise in their summations.

So what does the government need to prove? We have two identical fraud claims here. One against the bank defendants and one against Ms. Mairone.

Now, Judge Rakoff is the one who tells you about the So if I stumble and say something different from what law. Judge Rakoff says, forget what I say. But we expect he is going to instruct you that the government must prove three elements on each of its claims.

First, that there was a scheme to defraud Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. Second, that the defendant at issue participated in that scheme with knowledge of its fraudulent nature and specific intent to defraud. And third, that the defendant used the U.S. mail or an interstate wire, like a telephone call or an e-mail, in furtherance of the fraud.

The government needs to prove its claims by a preponderance of the evidence. That means that we have to show you that it is more likely than not that the defendants

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committed fraud. And surely we have shown you that. So when we're through, I will ask you to reach the only conclusion that is consistent with the evidence, and return a verdict for the United States.

Now let's go back to the summer of 2007 as the financial crisis unfolded. You'll recall that Countrywide's Full Spectrum Lending Division was looking to boost its profits. Full Spectrum needed a quick boost of cash, and the market was changing. Full Spectrum was moving from a subprime business to a prime business. But that has never explained the Hustle. Full Spectrum already had in place a model for processing prime loans, and you heard about this. It was called the prime CLUES accept work flow. You heard Michael Thomas and Edward O'Donnell explain how it worked. It involved underwriters in the process. Underwriters validated the information put into CLUES, and underwriters cleared those loans to close. And this process produced quality loans.

And throughout this trial, we never really heard anything wrong with this work flow. What was wrong with the prime CLUES accept work flow? We know what was wrong with it, according to defendants. It just wasn't fast enough. That's why they wanted the Hustle. They wanted more speed, and more volume.

And you heard from Mr. Thomas that he was immediately concerned about the Hustle model and he said so. He told you

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that he saw the tightening market. He read a company-wide e-mail sent by Drew Gissinger, the president of Countrywide Home Loans, that said rigorous underwriting discipline was critical to the company's success. Mr. Thomas said this new Hustle model would take them in the wrong direction.

Now let me show you DX 279. Mr. Thomas said that they've been down this road before. He had seen other processes like those in CMD and NCA designed without controls and without quality checkpoint, and those processes led to bad loans. He warned if FSL quality declines and we have the same quality issues that CMD regional operating centers are having, I don't think we'd want Drew to see this process design. he warned that NCA is a real-life example of what happens to quality when we remove or reduce the current control points. He sent his concerns to Mark Barnett and Anson Gong, engineers you heard from who helped design the Hustle process.

What kind of process did these engineers design? for speed. Mr. Barnett told you that himself. This was his design. Pushing loans through at high speed without hand offs and without toll gates. Mr. Barnett told you about going to CMD and studying their process. He created a presentation that we saw on what he liked about the CMD model. Fewer hand offs, less training required for each individual, faster turn time.

But what did he leave out of his presentation? Quality. And Mr. Barnett talked about diagrams like this.

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Remember seeing these diagrams? He talked about this diagram as evidence of something, though it's not clear what. does this chart tell us about quality? Nothing. And what did Mr. Barnett know about quality? Nothing. He testified he had no experience in underwriting. He had no experience in quality control. He had no experience with the guidelines of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. He had no experience in the mortgage industry whatsoever. But Mr. Barnett didn't have to know anything about quality to follow his mandate, did he? His mandate was to design a process for speed.

And we told you about a cautionary tale from NCA, another process designed for speed and managed by Rebecca It involved loan processors who are allowed to clear Mairone. loans to close. As you heard, those loan processors were given funding quotas, one loan per day. As we showed you, we showed you this e-mail involving Robert Price who said that the loan processors were under pressure to hit numbers oftentimes before they were allowed to leave, no matter what time it is. He said that the pressure was driving loan processors to take shortcuts and make poor decisions to hit numbers. What Mr. Price called "shortcuts" really was just lies. A loan specialist saying she reviewed a loan and cleared conditions when she hadn't.

And besides Michael Thomas and Ed O'Donnell, you heard from Mr. Price and you heard from John Boland about their concerns with loan specialists. All of these witnesses told

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you about the lack of experience that loan specialists had in Full Spectrum. And he had told you that loan specialists were outside of the underwriting and credit risk organizations. Instead, they were on the production and operations side of the company. And they told you that they warned that funding pressures drove bad quality.

Did the defendants listen? No. They designed a model that they knew was a recipe for disaster. They took away underwriters, they gave underwriting authority to loan specialists, and created a compensation plan to drive the loan specialists toward volume and speed at the expense of quality.

The evidence showed that in August of 2007, loan specialists had a turn time bonus rewarding them for moving loans quickly. They also had a funding bonus rewarding them for moving a lot of loans. But they had no quality bonus and they had no quality penalty.

As you heard from Mr. Thomas, at an initial kickoff meeting for the Hustle, the loan specialists raised concerns. They raised concerns about whether they were up to their tasks. And they asked Ms. Mairone how their pay would be affected if they made mistakes. And as Mr. Thomas told you, Ms. Mairone reassured them. But she didn't say we'll do all we can to train you and prevent mistakes. She said their compensation would not be hit for a few quality mistakes. And Ms. Mairone ended up suspending that hit for a total of six months.

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Ms. Mairone didn't act alone in approving these You heard a lot about a steering committee with the things. Hustle. That the steering committee approved the Hustle. But at the top of that steering committee, along with Ms. Mairone, were Greg Lumsden, the president of Full Spectrum Lending, and Cliff Kitashima, the chief credit officer. And together, these three sold the Hustle as a pilot, as a test. So you heard that Mr. O'Donnell signed on believing that if things didn't work, adjustments would be made.

Even with NCA when things got bad, Mr. O'Donnell had been able to step in and add checkpoints to address the poor quality. But in fact, the Hustle was a test of one thing only, and that was speed.

There were all sorts of reports on Hustle loans showing average fundings per loan specialist, average turn time per loan specialist, percentage of loans moved from application to funding. And Countrywide and Ms. Mairone watched those reports closely. They looked at what percentage of loans were hitting the turn time goals of 15 days initially, and then 24 days, and you saw the funding goals and those reports of 30 loans per loan specialist per month.

And remember this e-mail from Mr. Barnett? Mr. Barnett patted himself on the back to Ms. Mairone after the Hustle started saying so you know we're not falling down on the job here, we just got our first clear to close. One day.

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Why is he highlighting clear to close in one day? Ms. Mairone knows he's not falling down on the job. And what was his job? To design a process for speed.

These were big changes. An entirely different culture, a culture that focused only on speed and volume, but not quality. So some employees spoke up. We showed you the memo where Ed O'Donnell summarized feedback that he heard from his senior vice presidents and sent it along to Ms. Mairone. And Mr. O'Donnell said that the number one question he heard was about quality. Does the freeze of quality of grade and the request to move loans mean we no longer care about quality? And what was Ms. Mairone's response? Sounds like it may work. Sounds like it may work.

Why did she say that? Because, in fact, she and the bank did not care about quality. They were going to roll out this Hustle loan process no matter what.

(Continued on next page)

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MS. NAWADAY: You also heard about the Hustle culture change from John Boland. He told you about Audrey Knabe, who managed loan processors, and how Ms. Knabe asked him to approve loan processors for underwriting authority for the Hustle. you remember what Mr. Boland said about this? He basically said I don't know who these people are. So how could he know about the quality of their work? But he was told they're the guys assigned to the Hustle thing, come on, work with me. did Mr. Boland say that he interpreted that? There was a new

When the defense witnesses talked about the Hustle pilot, they talked about how collaborative the process was. You heard that word a lot, "collaborative," from Mr. Kitashima, Mr. Barnett and Mr. Gong. But ask yourself, why did they use that word so many times? Your common sense is the most important asset that you bring to this process. You know when somebody makes sense, and you know when somebody is trying to hard to convince you of something that isn't true.

culture and a new set of rules for the Hustle.

And while there were meetings about the Hustle that included a lot of people, that doesn't mean that the process was collaborative. Did the bank and Ms. Mairone listen and respond to those who advocated controls? No. Because the process was rigged.

And remember when we asked Mr. Barnett whether his goal was to remove tollgates from processing loans? And he

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said no, that wasn't my goal. And then we put up this exhibit that showed that in fact his goal was to minimize the number of tollgates and push speed.

In fact, you recall that Mr. O'Donnell emailed him and suggested having underwriters look at appraisals, saying they could get them turned around in less than 24 hours. But mr. Barnett saw that delay as to counter to his goals. And when we asked Mr. Barnett if he set funding goals for the Hustle, he said no, I didn't set funding goals. Then we put up this exhibit which shows his involvement in setting a funding goal of 30 to 35 fundings per loan specialist per month.

So ask yourself, did Mr. Barnett just forget to mention that he wanted to remove tollgates? Did he just forget to mention the funding goals? No, he didn't forget. He didn't want to tell you that part. He didn't want to admit that it was all about funding, speed and volume.

Mr. Barnett dodged around on another issue as well. He testified on direct examination by defense counsel that in attending steering committee meetings he never heard anyone express disagreement with proceeding with the Hustle pilot. Не never heard anyone express disagreement with expanding it to Central Fulfillment. Do you remember that?

Then we asked him about this exhibit. At the end of August, Mr. Barnett was having confidential conversations about expanding the Hustle work into Central Fulfillment. And he

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said that this information might be considered by some to be sensitive. But if everyone was so on board with the Hustle, if this was such a great loan process, why was this information so sensitive?

You already know the answer. Quality. information was sensitive because Ed O'Donnell and Michael Thomas and others had expressed concerns about the pilot to him, concerns about the quality of the loans the Hustle would Those concerns were based not only on what they had produce. seen in NCA, but on the very first quality assurance report. That report, as we showed up, showed that more than 40 percent of the Hustle loans were flagged as high risk. Mr. O'Donnell told you this was way above what he had seen in the past. And he said that the 40 percent high risk finding was a big problem because the pilot was supposed to be using the most experienced loan specialists and the highest quality loans.

So Mr. O'Donnell took these results to the steering committee, and he took them in particular to Ms. Mairone and Mr. Lumsden. And how did they react? Ms. Mairone asked who the reports were being distributed to, and she attacked the finding. She didn't want to hear that the process wasn't She didn't want to hear that the loans were bad For Ms. Mairone, the pilot was never a test of quality. anything but speed. As Mr. Barnett told us in his email, the

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direction driven by Rebecca was that the Hustle teams would be taking and keeping all loans. And as you heard, by early October the Hustle expanded into what is called Central Fulfillment.

In the face of this terrible quality results, loan specialists were given more authority, and they were allowed to process higher risk loans, like the stated income loans and the expanded approval loans that you heard about which were more like subprime loans. Expanded approval loans and stated income loans were not the highest quality, lowest risk prime loans that the Hustle was supposedly designed for, and defendants knew that. Mr. O'Donnell told you that he said that these loans should stay out of the Hustle, but they were added anyway.

And we know who was in charge of Central Fulfillment because we saw this chart many times during the trial, and Ms. Mairone admitted on the stand that she knew that Central Fulfillment loans were being sold to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. She knew that those loans were sold with representations that the loans were investment quality. The one thing she wouldn't admit but we now know from the evidence is that she knew that the representations about investment quality were lies and the loans were very poor quality.

And you heard that Ms. Mairone, with Mr. Lumsden and Mr. Kitashima, picked Wade Comeaux to manage Central

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Fulfillment. Mr. Comeaux was a sales guy, somebody who was touted as bringing a true production perspective to Central Fulfillment. And Mr. Comeaux certainly did live up to that, pushing to fund, quote, a hell of a lot of loans in the fall of 2007. And even when quality assurance reports continued to show high finding rates, 80 and 90 percent high risk findings, Mr. Comeaux never took his eye off those production goals.

And defendants tried one excuse after another for ignoring these quality assurance reports. One excuse was that the reports just looked at loans prefunding at a point when mistakes can be corrected. But then we showed you that the quality assurance group tested loans in both the prefunding and post funding stage. And what did it find? The vast majority of mistakes were not being fixed. We saw that in an email from Steve Brent to Ms. Mairone in November of 2007 telling Ms. Mairone and Mr. Kitashima that only five percent of the findings were being corrected. And in this email, Brent warned this could create much higher SUS rates, severely unsatisfactory rates.

And did Mairone listen? Did Ms. Mairone listen? Let's look at what she said. Rather than respond to Mr. Brent, Mairone suggests to Mr. Comeaux that they discuss the issue offline. Now you heard testimony from Ms. Mairone that all she ever wanted to do was improve the quality assurance process. But if that's what she wanted to do, why did she ask for an

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offline discussion with Mr. Comeaux? Ask yourself what type of discussion does a person typically take offline?

Were Mr. Brent's warnings heeded? No. What we see from November 2007 is that quality was nothing more than a distraction. You heard testimony from Ms. Mairone and Mr. Kitashima that there supposedly was overcommunication about quality assurance. And you saw an email from Scott Bridges, another production guy, complaining that loan specialists were getting pounded with quality reports. Concerns about quality were distracting these loan specialists, supposedly, from focusing on production. But no one seemed to be complaining about overcommunication about production. As you saw during Ms. Mairone's testimony, she sent out daily reports on funding production, on funding projections, and she said the purpose of those reports was to increase the accountability of the operations teams for the forecasted fundings.

So at Countrywide it's OK to pound people with daily reports when you want to hold them accountable for fundings but not when you want to hold them accountable for quality. the low loan specialists were pounded about turn time. Remember that email from November 2007 from defense witness Ron Gillet? He set a new turn time goal for his team of five days from the time the individual received the appraisal on a loan to the time that loan cleared to close. And you might remember what he said to his reports, because it was so colorful.

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will be hearing from me, emails, meetings, checking and sending You can count on me to be on this like white on rice. notes.

And it wasn't only the quality assurance group that expressed concerns, you saw emails from others. You heard testimony from John Boland and Robert Price about concerns expressed to them that they passed along. And one email in particular that they both received was this one from Neal Ballance, who was an underwriting manager in Richardson.

And Mr. Ballance complained: It seems we're making up for a loss in subprime by becoming overly aggressive, reckless with prime. And haven't we already seen where this will go? recall the recent meltdown with NCA. Those branches were given authority to clear almost everything. That resulted in branch operation managers clearing to close files that were never cleared, funding loans before they were approved by underwriting, ignoring conditions, et cetera. I don't understand. This mentality will eventually lead us down the same road as subprime. When did erring on the side of caution ever become a bad thing? How will investors and now, more than ever, fed regulators react when they learn that total authority for all aspects of a loan lies solely within a branch, a branch run by only and responsible only to production management? Time will tell.

When you read this email, I want you to remember the defense counsel's promise. They said that when you see the

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documents and you hear the witnesses, you will find the focus on quality and correcting quality problems almost overwhelming. Ladies and gentlemen, do you find this overwhelming?

Defendants, of course, did not stop there. At Mr. Lumsden's suggestion, Ms. Mairone agreed to lower base pay so that their compensation would be more heavily dependent on And bonus pay, as we know, was based on volume and bonuses. speed but not quality.

And again, Ms. Mairone did not act alone in pushing funding, we also heard from Greg Lumsden through his November And Mr. Lumsden said, as you heard, that if Full Spectrum does not fund the volumes per its budget, it will not have to worry about QA and QC. And Mr. Lumsden's point could not be clearer: Forget about quality, just crank up production. And you heard him say to hit their numbers they should watch for and eliminate any distractions. distractions? Anything that slows down the production of loans, like quality checkpoints and QA reports.

And Mr. Comeaux and Ms. Mairone were on board. Mr. Comeaux, as you know, told his direct reports that they had to, quote, take ownership of funding a hell of a lot more loans in December.

And immediately after that, Ms. Mairone told her reports that they needed to hit \$1.75 billion in fundings. She sent that email on November 29. And we know what else

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Ms. Mairone did on November 29th because you heard plenty of testimony about it. She ordered that all QA communication be directed solely to her. She ordered that all QC communication be directed solely to her. She suspended on-site reviews that provided feedback about quality to loan specialists. She eliminated mandatory checklists that guided those loan specialists through their tasks, and she extended the Quality of Grade reprieve.

There's no dispute that Ms. Mairone sent her email -sent her November 29 email with the approval of Greg Lumsden and Cliff Kitashima. In fact, she admitted that on the stand. So why did Ms. Mairone support these changes? You can believe her words then or you can believe her words now, because during her testimony we went on a fantastical voyage between two realities, what she said in the past and what she said on the stand.

Back then Ms. Mairone declared that the purpose of these changes is to immediately increase the focus on funding loans and working the pipeline. And that makes sense because each of the changes that she announced removed a distraction to allow loans to be funded faster. You heard about how the QA fundings supposedly slowed down the loan specialists who were shown their mistakes. Defense counsel showed you an email from Scott Bridges, the head of production, complaining about this. So stopping the reports sped up production. You heard

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Mr. O'Donnell explain on-site reviews, the process of sitting down with the loan specialist and teaching that person how to do things correctly. But that teaching would distract loan specialists from moving loans, so suspending the site reviews sped up production.

And you heard Ms. Mairone testify that it took time to complete these checklists and upload them into the loan files. So Ms. Mairone eliminated a lot of those checklists, and that sped up production. And finally, Ms. Mairone extended the free pass for poor quality and announced that employees would no longer even receive direct QA feedback until further notice. What better way to send the message to keep driving towards speed and volume?

Now Ms. Mairone says she took those actions to improve the focus on quality and to be fair to employees learning new roles, and she testified again and again that she thought the changes she put in place would have either no affect on or would in fact improve loan quality. Ask yourselves, does that make any sense?

Let me give you a few examples. When asked what, if any, effect minimizing hand offs would have on loan quality, Ms. Mairone answered: We thought it would improve loan quality. Really? Does that make sense?

When asked if relying on CLUES as the underwriter would compromise loan quality, Ms. Mairone answered no, I

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thought it would help loan quality. Does that make sense?

When asked whether she thought that allowing the loan specialists to clear conditions on loans would hurt loan quality, she said: I didn't think it would hurt loan quality at all. Does that make any sense, that replacing experienced underwriters with loan specialists wouldn't hurt loan quality?

And when asked why, she pointed to the quality reporting, the reporting that she attacked and she ignored. And she also pointed to all the controls in place, although nearly all the controls had been eliminated on her watch.

Ms. Mairone's answers don't make sense because they aren't true. Ms. Mairone was not worried about loan quality, she was concerned about speed and production.

And let's look at Mr. Comeaux's response to Ms. Mairone's November 29 email. Does he say great job, this will really help loan quality? Of course not. He says: Great job. This is huge. But reminder, we still have around nine checklists and a few other friction points not yet addressed. When will we get those removed?

Ask yourselves, does that sound like a focus on quality or a focus on speed?

Now was the quality assurance process debated? Of course it was. And I expect you'll hear plenty more about QA from defense counsel today. But was the quality assurance process so controversial before the Hustle? No.

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Mr. O'Donnell testified, findings were typically shared with the people working the line, the people that made mistakes, so that they could learn from those mistakes. But by November 2007, there were simply too many mistakes. That was the problem.

And while you heard from some defense witnesses that they disagreed with the QA findings and believed that there were some false positives, was it right for them to ignore the findings entirely? Was it right for them to just keep funding loans when the high risk findings climbed to more than 90 percent? You may recall that Ms. Mairone testified that she wanted to investigate QA and determine the root causes of She said to the quality assurance group, in effect, defects. these are just your opinions on the findings, and I think they're wrong, and I'm going to go about business as usual in funding loans. Ask yourself: Why did she do that? What can you infer from that?

Ladies and gentlemen, I submit that when you consider Ms. Mairone's email, her November 29 email and the emails around the same time, you will conclude that her testimony last week concerning her focus on quality was completely ridiculous. And I want to remind you of just a few examples. When asked under oath about on-site reviews during her deposition, she said she could not even remember what they were. When asked about them during trial, she claimed to recall not only what

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the onside reviews were, but also that in suspending them her intent was to get the QA process corrected and the SUS type items prioritized.

She wants to you believe that her memory is that much better now. According to Ms. Mairone now, there was no problem with quality in November of 2007. The only problem was with the reporting on quality. But if that were true, if the loan specialists were not struggling and making tons of mistakes, then why did she approve a Quality of Grade suspension that ultimately went on for six months?

And remember what she said about the training of loan specialists? At her deposition she knew nothing about the training, she knew only that there was a training plan. trial she recalled the components of the training plan. even testified that she was not even aware of a single loan specialist who did not receive proper training. Again, that's quite a change. It's also just plan wrong. We showed you the results of the file reviews for the Central Fulfillment loan specialists in November. In some cases, such as Barbara Heinecke's team in Chandler, Arizona, one of the Hustle centers, the loan specialists failed nearly half of the loan files that they were tested on.

How about Ms. Mairone's testimony that the changes she announced in her November 29 email were made only after she reviewed the findings set forth in Defendant's Exhibit 963?

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That testimony created problems for her when we pointed out on cross-examination that the findings in DX93 were from March of 2008, three months after her November 29 email. And you heard Ms. Mairone later try to talk her way out of that testimony by saying she saw similar reports earlier. But where are those reports? Whatever report she was referring to, we haven't seen it, have we? The presentation she said she relied on doesn't go back in time. This addresses only March of 2008. You know when something doesn't make sense, when you are hearing something false, the closer you pay attention to it, the more confusing it gets. That's a sign. Listen to your common sense.

You might hear defense counsel try to claim credit for certain changes made to stated income loans in November 2007. They told you about a new tool in determining reasonability of stated income, but this wasn't a change spearheaded by Ms. Mairone or by anyone at Full Spectrum Lending. change, like other changes, was driven we Drew Gissinger, an executive at Countrywide Home Loans, the same Drew Gissinger who demanded rigorous underwriting in August 2007 who is outside of Full Spectrum and above Ms. Mairone, Mr. Lumsden and Mr. Kitashima.

That's what we see in DX755. This was an email shown to you by Mr. Mukasey. Attached are the minutes of yesterday's meeting with the credit/quality control group. Big focus on

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documenting how we arrive at reasonableness of stated income, which Drew also echoed.

And whatever the debate was about quality assurance, we know that in fact it was an early warning sign. You heard that prediction from Mr. O'Donnell, from Mr. Thomas, and from Mr. Brent's emails. The high quality assurance ratings in the fourth quarter of 2007 turned into high quality control findings in the first quarter of 2008. That's when they go from talking about high risk to talking about severely unsatisfactory or materially defective. And the quality control reports showed initial severely unsatisfactory rates of approximately 30 percent. That means the quality assurance reports were on to something.

You heard testimony from defense counsel witnesses who tried to tell you the quality assurance had nothing to do with quality. But that's just wrong. It's called quality assurance for a reason. The evidence of poor quality in the first quarter of 2008 is overwhelming. We see it in the reports, we see it in the emails, we see it in presentations.

Remember when Ms. Mairone talked about investigating the root causes of defects? There were in fact investigations into the root causes of these high defect rates. And do you remember what they found? That the root causes of poor quality were the very changes that Ms. Mairone, Mr. Lumsden and Mr. Kitashima supported, the Central Fulfillment model, the

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suspension of Quality of Grade, the restricted communication on quality control findings, and the restricted communication on quality assurance findings.

Now if Ms. Mairone cared about loan quality, we should have seen her driving big changes in the first quarter of 2008. But that's not what we saw, is it? Did Ms. Mairone and Mr. Comeaux question this new model? No. They pushed for funding contests. Mr. Comeaux proposed to fund 15,000 loans for the month of February, and he suggested that they continue to provide daily feedback on turn time and roll out a contest for mid month funding. And Ms. Mairone approved that contest, and you heard about it, it was called the On Fire in February In fact, as she testified, Mr. Comeaux could not contest. implement a funding contest without her approval. And you heard about and saw emails about how closely the loan specialists fundings were tracked during that period. You saw an email from Ron Gillet comparing the loan specialists funding competition to a horse race and encouraging them to fund the loans at lightning speed.

Of course, it was all fun and games if you were funding lots of loans, but not if you were a low producer. you remember that email from James White who ran the Central Fulfillment Center in Chandler, Arizona? He told his group that nobody leaves until they move at least one loan into phase code two.

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And during this time, we never heard anything about contests for quality, did we? Because there were none. you know the reason why, because it was all about speed and volume and never quality. And while they were tracking fundings and turn times and application to funding ratios, were they tracking the quality of loan specialists? They said they were. As you heard, Cliff Kitashima testified at his deposition that even while Quality of Grade penalties were suspended, they continued to track the quality. Was that true?

Well, we showed you this chart during Mr. Kitashima's testimony, and we can see on this chart that they tracked funding. And we see on the chart that they tracked turn time. But is this what Mr. Kitashima meant when he said they tracked the quality, that everyone was ranked number one? And even in the spring of 2008 when the Quality of Grade hit supposedly return, did we see any evidence of that? No. Where are the Quality of Grade tracking reports? We never saw any, did we?

What we saw were emails like this from February in which a Central Fulfillment manager says: It's the first QoG report he's seen since he started in June. And he points out all the the loan specialists on the report have the same score. And let's go back to this email from May in which Mr. Comeaux observes that loan specialists have been receiving no Quality of Grade feedback for months and that they have no organized detail on SUS fundings per loan specialist.

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But the evidence showed plenty of organized detail on funding rates and turn time averages for the loan specialists. Again, do you find the focus on quality overwhelming, as defense counsel promised? Michael Thomas and Ed O'Donnell, among others, knew the reason that quality was bad during this time, and we know the reason, too. The reason was the Hustle.

So in March of 2008, Michael Thomas recirculated the email that we showed you from August this time saying: This is my plan of attack. Oh, wait, this is what we suggested last August. And you saw the responses to that email. We showed you several responses, and in each one people responded in one way or another, basically you were right. Biren Desai, Pamela Richards and Patrick Aliano.

Mr. Desai responded: Is the benefit of improved turn time due to control reduction worth the cost of deteriorating quality? At this point, it seems you have your answer, and it's a resounding no.

And Patrick Aliano, a risk manager involved in the Hustle design meetings, replied and changed the subject line of his reply to HSSL August. And what does he say? Let's look. Ed will tell you when we sat in the room in July, these were some of the same concerns that we expressed. I want you to remember this email from Mr. Aliano because it shows that he and Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Thomas all raised concerns from the start of the Hustle. Ask yourself: Does Mr. Aliano have any

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reason not to be truthful in this email? Think about that and weigh that against the testimony you hear now from defense witnesses claiming that no one ever expressed any concern about

As Mr. Thomas explained in his email, it wasn't rocket science to see what was coming. But Mr. Lumsden and Ms. Mairone and Mr. Kitashima didn't listen. That's because they purposely entered into this scheme to churn out bad loans and sell them to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. And the scheme would have continued if not for someone above them and outside of FSL, again, Drew Gissinger, who got wind of what was going on within Full Spectrum, and he ordered a meeting with Mr. Lumsden, Ms. Mairone and Mr. Kitashima and Mr. O'Donnell about Full Spectrum's quality issues.

And even then, did they straighten up right away? First they blamed others and then tried to avoid blame themselves. Mr. Lumsden told Mr. O'Donnell that Full Spectrum no longer fights like it used to on the SUSs, and he directed Mr. O'Donnell to get the defect rates down. And Mr. Comeaux at that point complained to Ms. Mairone that ever since Mr. Gissinger became involved he was no longer winning process disagreements against Mr. O'Donnell.

And where was Cliff Kitashima in all this? Where was the director of credit risk, the person above all others tasked with guarding loan quality? He was biding his time, waiting to

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retire in a few months. According to Mr. Kitashima, there were no real problems. According to Mr. Kitashima, quality assurance had no connection to loan quality. So the high findings -- the high findings rates didn't worry him. Stated income loans didn't worry him either.

Mr. Kitashima told you that he believed they were among the highest quality, lowest risk loans. In fact, he might be the only person you heard from who believed that. After all, Michael Thomas told us that stated income loans were sometimes referred to as liar loans. Do you remember that? And Benjamin Tanabe, Freddie Mac's director of credit risk, told us stated income loans are risker and require more careful underwriting.

Even Mr. Kitashima acknowledged that at that time, in 2007 and 2008, stated income loans were experiencing high rates of early payment defaults. Those were loans defaulting in the first six months of funding. But Mr. Kitashima still admitted no worries. And according to him, neither did Mr. O'Donnell. He told us that Mr. O'Donnell never even expressed concern that Hustle loans were a poor quality, that Mr. O'Donnell never expressed concern that loan specialists were not qualified, and never expressed concern that loan specialists were determining reasonability of income.

Why did he say he remembers none of that? Because he knew that quality was in the ditch, as did Ms. Mairone and

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Mr. Lumsden, and he did nothing. We showed you this email, PX78, in which Mr. O'Donnell tells him the current process for determining income reasonability is in the ditch. And you heard from other witnesses, like Michael Thomas and Robert Price, that Mr. O'Donnell raised concerns about these issues to Mr. Kitashima. Do you find Mr. Kitashima's focus on quality overwhelming?

And what did Ms. Mairone do when Mr. Gissinger recognized the problem with Full Spectrum quality? She first tried to keep some of the bad news away from Mr. Gissinger. She ordered Ed O'Donnell to remove some slides from a presentation. And O'Donnell, when O'Donnell refused, she told him that if he didn't follow her direction, she would find someone who would. You heard Mr. O'Donnell's testimony on that, and he said Mr. Kitashima was there as well. Mr. Kitashima say anything contrary when the defense called him to testify? No. In fact, when asked about Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Kitashima testified that Mr. O'Donnell was very competent, that he relied on him, and there was mutual respect between them.

And even when Ms. Mairone was asked about whether she ever ordered Mr. O'Donnell to remove some slides from a certain presentation, she didn't say absolutely not, I would never do that, all she said was not that I remember. But Ed O'Donnell remembers. He told you that she ordered him to remove those

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And as you heard, the meeting that ended up happening slides. with Gissinger was basically a train wreck, and Mr. Kitashima and Mr. O'Donnell got the blame.

As Mr. O'Donnell told you, by that point he had had enough. He had been pushing for more controls for months, he had been ignored, and now he was the fall guy for it. For months he said that the focus was all about speed and volume rather than quality. So he drafted an email and laid out the quality problems and identified the person he saw as driving the changes that led to those problems, Rebecca Mairone.

And then he helped set up the sprint incentive based on Mr. Lumsden's directive to drive down the defect rates, a bonus incentive that paid quality control employees for overturning SUS findings from the first quarter of 2008. Rebuttals led to increased paychecks. Employees were paid more the closer they got to reducing the 30 percent number down to the industry standard rate of four percent.

At the same time, there was another rebuttal incentive in place that we told you about, the Full Spectrum poker run. We showed you this email from James White saying that those who overturned the most SUS findings would get a seat at the Snake Pit Casino. And defense witness Andrew Porteck described that contest as kind of a fun little game that we played. And those incentives did drive down the defect rates into at least the single digits. And defendants now hold those numbers up in

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this chart that you have seen so many times during this trial as proof of quality instead of proof of lies. The quality chart that defendants have shown repeatedly during trial reflects the numbers long after these rebuttal incentives had their desired effect. Ask yourself whether these numbers are the ones that you can trust.

And let's also remember that there were losers in that fun little game that Andrew Portek described: The borrowers on those loans. At the other end of these loans, which were just part of some contest, were real people with real homes. And the other losers were the purchasers of those loans, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, who were told that every loan was investment quality but ended up with loans like the one Maria Brewster described. It was made to the doorman whose application said he made \$13,000 a month. You heard her testify that in fact he made only a third of that and worked in Pebble Beach, California, but was buying a property as his primary residence in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. And as Ms. Brewster explained, a doorman is a job that you actually have to be physically present to do. It would be hard to commute from Florida to California every day.

And in the loan files we showed you, you will see lots of evidence of mailings between the borrower and Countrywide, such as a loan file pages like this. And I point that out because we talked earlier about use of the mail and use of

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interstate wire. So there's obviously a use of mails here in furtherance of defendant's scheme, which is one of the elements you'll be instructed on.

And all of the interstate emails that you saw between folks in Texas like Mr. Thomas and Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Price, and those in California, like Mr. Lumsden, Mr. Kitashima, and Ms. Mairone, were emails that are addressed to all of Full Spectrum Lending, like this one that went to offices in different states, demonstrate the use of interstate wire in furtherance of the scheme as well.

Now let me turn back to Fannie and Freddie. the representations and warranties we talked about in the last four weeks, one should stand out: Every loan is investment quality, which means that the borrower is able or likely to repay. You heard that explanation from Michael Sobczak, among That requirement of investment quality was never There was no variance from the requirement of waived. investment quality.

And that requirement was critical to Fannie and Freddie. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were buying millions of loans, and they didn't have the ability to review those loans before buying them, so they relied on the bank's representation, a promise about quality. And you heard from Benjamin Tanabe, Pam Padgett, John Forlines, Maria Brewster, Michael Sobczak, and defense witness David Battany. They each

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talked about their different responsibilities about the different provisions of the contracts, but each one said that the representation that a loan is investment quality matters to And you heard from these witnesses that the representation is critical because Fannie and Freddie buy too many loans to underwrite those loans themselves, and Fannie and Freddie don't want to buy junk.

And even though Countrywide sold every loan to Fannie and Freddie with the representation that it was investment quality, only six times did defendants identify a bad Hustle loan for them and say wait we need to correct what we said, that was actually a bad loan. And why is that important? Because it shows that defendants had no intention to correct their false and misleading representations about quality. They intended to deceive Fannie and Freddie. They kept Fannie and Freddie in the dark about the quality of the Hustle loans they sold them, loans sold with lies.

Now defense counsel may get up and argue all the things that didn't matter to Fannie and Freddie, and they might arque they disclosed some particular aspect of the Hustle process in tiny print in an appendix to a presentation they showed you. But this is nonsense. No one from Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac testified they ever even saw such a presentation.

And they might argue that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac This doesn't matter. The fraud was not CLUES, loved CLUES.

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Summation - Ms. Nawaday

the fraud was selling bad loans as good loans to make a quick profit. Defendants never disclosed that they were doing that. They never disclosed that they knew that their bad loans were sold to Fannie and Freddie as good loans, period.

What other proof is there that the Hustle loans were terrible quality? That's where the experts came in, and you heard from two in our case. You heard from Ira Holt, an underwriting expert, who explained his methods, how nearly every member of his team of underwriters worked together in one office in Alabama re-underwriting all the Hustle loans. hired his own underwriters, he trained them, and he had constant dialogue with them about the loans. His methods made sense, and he answered questions about his methods in a straightforward way. And what he found was that more than half of the loans in the sample of 343 loans provided to him, 53 percent, were materially defective, meaning they were not investment quality.

Now our second expert, Dr. Charles Cowan, was a statistician. So he took that number from Mr. Holt and he did what is called an extrapolation, and he told you what that means. He told you what he does is sort of like estimating the outcome of a political election based on random polling. took the defect rate of 53 percent from a random sample of 343, and he projected what that would mean for the entire population of Hustle loans sold to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

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Dr. Cowan concluded that approximately 43 percent of those loans were materially defective. And again, by "materially defective, " we mean that the loans were not investment quality and should not have been sold to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

Finally, Lars Hansen, our witness from FHFA, Office of Inspector General, explained the data that the banks provided on Hustle loans, and he talked us through some charts, charts like this one showing that the bank earned more than \$165 million on Hustle loans. And he talked us through this chart, PX430, showing us that more than 75 percent of Hustle loans between August of 2007 and January of 2008 were rated high risk or action required by the quality assurance group.

Now the defense might say that our sample of Hustle loans is overbroad, that it included loans that never in fact went through the Hustle process. And they called Anthony Ho in their case to testify about how Hustle loans should be defined. And Mr. Ho gave some technical arguments about data and what he believed the Hustle population really consists of based on branch center codes and things like that. But Mr. Ho admitted that he had no personal knowledge of the criteria that should be used to identify Hustle loans. He was never involved with the Hustle. Mr. Ho's criteria were based on documents provided to him by bank counsel, as he explained to you.

And as you heard, the bank's loan data that Mr. Ho relied on and testified about in fact contained a Hustle flag.

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Now you would think that a Hustle flag in the data could be used to identify Hustle loans, wouldn't you? But as Mr. Ho tried to explain, the bank considered the flag to be unreliable, because they found it flagged loans incorrectly.

All of these technical arguments are just designed to move your focus away from the experts' loan quality findings. Whatever the exact number of Hustle loans, and we say it's 28,800, the proof is overwhelming that the Hustle loans were terrible and sold to the GSEs with lies. And if anyone has made that clear to you, how bad the loans were, it was the underwriting expert called by the defense, Robert Broeksmit.

Mr. Broeksmit told you that his job was only to rebut Mr. Holt's findings. And not all of his findings, only the loans that Mr. Holt found to be investment -- sorry, to be materially defective. Does this sound familiar? Does this sound like the sprint incentive? Does this sound like another round of the FSL poker run?

And Mr. Broeksmit's methods made no sense. admitted that he and his staff never looked at all the loan They didn't do a full re-underwriting of any loan. Не told you that he never met most of the underwriters on his team, and he stayed in touch mostly with his three top level reviewers. And what were the qualifications of the three top level reviewers to do this expert job? As you heard, two of them were defense lawyers, defense lawyers instead of

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underwriters. Mr. Broeksmit admitted that they had no direct underwriting experience. That wasn't a prerequisite for the job. And of course, Mr. Broeksmit rarely had to overrule their recommendations.

And we also showed you Mr. Broeksmit's instructions to his team. These were the instructions that he gave them before they started their review, and those instructions gave his reviewers a road map on how to rebut the findings made by the government's expert. That's not an objective review, that's just a method designed to artificially drive down the defect rate. And Mr. Broeksmit also admitted there was no possible way he could arrive at a higher defect rate than our expert.

So ladies and gentlemen, ask yourselves this, if they think their loans are so good, why didn't they let their own expert review them? That's the question they don't want you to ask, and that's the question they can't answer. But you can use your common sense and arrive at your own answer, because they do know the loans are bad and they also knew why they were bad. That's why they were ordered to finally bring back the underwriters in May of 2008 after thousands and thousands of bad loans had been sold to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

You saw that recognition not just from Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Thomas and Aliano, but from Wade Comeaux, the manager of Central Fulfillment, who told Greg Lumsden that they had to, quote, change the culture that was highly focused on turn time,

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a culture that was created at the direction of Ms. Mairone, Mr. Comeaux, Mr. Kitashima and Mr. Lumsden.

I just want to talk for one more minute about Mr. O'Donnell, because I expect you will be hearing more about him in the defense summations. I expect you'll be instructed by Judge Rakoff on assessing the credibility of witnesses, and you should, of course, evaluate Mr. O'Donnell's credibility as you would any other witness. Consider his knowledge of the facts, consider how he testified on direct and crossexamination. He endured seven hours of cross-examination by very experienced lawyers. You saw how his demeanor remained calm, and how he remained forthcoming in his answers. He told you that he was the whistleblower. He told you he gave conditional approval to the Hustle pilot. He told you, frankly, that he had disagreements with Ms. Mairone and that he continued to speak out about quality issues. He told you that he was in a tight spot in the spring of 2008 and that he helped start the sprint incentive. Defendants might fault him for that. But Mr. O'Donnell doesn't have to be perfect to be credible. His testimony, unlike that of Ms. Mairone and Mr. Kitashima, is corroborated by his own documents in 2007 and 2008.

In their opening statement, defense counsel suggested that somehow Mr. O'Donnell lived one life then and sees things differently now. I urge you to test that. Look back at

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Mr. O'Donnell's draft email and look to see how similar in fact it is to what he said on the stand. And remember that his testimony is also corroborated by the testimony of Michael Thomas, Robert Price and John Boland.

And let me also say a few words about some of the other witnesses that you heard from in the last few weeks, and in particular, who else you heard from from the defense. Jack Throughout opening statements on both sides, and throughout the government's case, I don't think we ever heard the name Jack Schakett. So you might have wondered why he was the kick off witness for the defense. He was a Countrywide employee, but he wasn't a Full Spectrum employee. And he testified that he never heard of the High Speed Swim Lane in 2007 and 2008. The defense case started with a witness you never heard of who knew nothing about the High-Speed Swim Lane. What does that tell you, ladies and gentlemen?

You also heard from Lori Peffer, another witness whose name probably never surfaced during the first two weeks of the trial. And Ms. Peffer testified on direct examination about how CLUES works. And she said that if a loan receives a CLUES accept, it's considered to be investment quality. That seemed like a pretty sweeping statement, didn't it? Maybe that's what defendants have to say to argue that they sold good loans. Maybe they have to argue that all CLUES accept loans are good loans.

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But that's just false. We know that is false because we heard testimony about how -- about all the things, frankly, that CLUES can't do. CLUES cannot clear conditions on a loan. You heard how CLUES cannot evaluate an appraisal. You heard how CLUES cannot determine reasonability of income. And in fact, Countrywide's own underwriting guidelines even set out these steps in explaining how to underwrite a CLUES accept. So how could you have an investment quality loan that does none of these things? Answer: You couldn't.

And that's ultimately what Ms. Peffer admitted on cross-examination. She admitted that you need a qualified, trained human being to look at the conditions on the loan, to review the appraisal, to address any issues with the appraisal. And ultimately, she completely contradicted her direct exam testimony. She admitted that a CLUES accept does not mean that a loan is investment quality. Because, as you heard from numerous witnesses, underwriting involves judgment calls, and you need qualified people to make those calls.

So why was Ms. Peffer trying to convince us that a CLUES accept was all we needed for a good loan? Because she wanted you to believe that you don't need underwriters. Because if you don't need underwriters, then maybe the Hustle won't look so bad. But it does look bad, and it was bad because it was fraud.

And before I complete my remarks, I just want to thank

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you on behalf of myself, all the lawyers and staff for the United States, and all the lawyers and staff for the defendants for the patience and attention that you have shown to all of us as you heard all of the evidence come in. We know this has been a long road for all of you and we know that you have had

to make sacrifices to be here for the last four weeks.

As we promised at the beginning of this trial, the evidence has proven that the defendants committed fraud by putting speed and volume over quality and selling loans with lies. And now it's your turn to evaluate that evidence for yourselves. So in doing so, we ask you now, as we asked you at the beginning of this case, to listen closely to Judge Rakoff's instructions on the law and to follow them. And we ask you now, as we asked you at the beginning of this case, to use your common sense.

If you do those things, the defendants will get a fair trial, the government will get a fair trial, and you will return a verdict that is fair and just. And the verdict the government respectfully asks you to reach, the verdict the evidence compels, is that the defendants are liable for fraud.

Thank you.

THE COURT: Thank you very much. All right. Ladies and gentlemen, we'll take a 15-minute break.

(Jury not present)

THE COURT: All right. Well, I am delighted that the

government counsel only took two-thirds of her allotted time.

I hope that's a good precedent.

Anything counsel needs to raise with the Court?

MR. SULLIVAN: Given the early time, I still plan to split one hour, one hour. Is that OK with the Court?

THE COURT: Yes. So what we'll do is we'll take an early lunch then, so we'll start again at approximately 11:30 and go to 12:30, take lunch to 1:30 and then give you your second hour right after lunch.

Very good. See you in 15 minutes.

(Recess taken)

(In open court; jury not present)

wanted to go back and check the record before I raised it,

MR. MUKASEY: Judge, may I raise one quick issue.

Judge.

THE COURT: Please be seated.

MR. MUKASEY: As you know, I'm not one of the orators today, but hopefully wearing my jury hat, the jury charge

conference had raised this.

There was a moment during Ms. Nawaday's summation when she was referring to DX 963, which is a PowerPoint presentation, where she asked of Ms. Mairone -- and I think I'm quoting pretty closely here -- where is the proof of the documents that Ms. Mairone looked at. Where are the records, where are the reports.

Judge, I think credibility attacks obviously when Ms. Mairone takes the witness stand are in bounds, but burden shifting is not. And asking why she didn't produce reports or records is really an improper shifting of the burden in a case where the defendant has no burden.

THE COURT: No, I think where a party makes assertions, as you did on your opening with respect to Ms. Mairone, and she did herself in her testimony, which are either uncorroborated or not corroborated through the obvious corroboration that the jury could find was reasonably available, I think it's fair comment to point out the absence

of such corroboration. That's what I took the statement to be made.

Now, of course, there will be included in the instructions, indeed it was I think in your request that it was added to the instruction -- no, it was bank defendants' request, but anyway, that they should not speculate about matters outside of the evidence, and you can of course refer to that if you wish on your summation.

But, I think there is a difference between saying that the burden is on the government and saying that some evidence that would be available to a party to corroborate assertions that have been affirmatively made by that party has not been produced. So I think that was fair comment.

MR. MUKASEY: I certainly agree that asking where in the record is the proof of X is fair comment. Asking why the defendant didn't produce it is the issue I want to flag and preserve.

THE COURT: I hear what you are saying. But I think the reasonable way that the jury took it was along the lines of how certainly I interpreted it when I heard it.

Thank you for raising it, but I don't think it requires any further action by the Court.

Let's bring in the jury.

(Jury present)

THE COURT: All right, ladies and gentlemen, we will

now hear from counsel for the bank defendants. He has been allotted two hours. He's going to take one hour now and we'll take lunch a little bit early and have the second part after lunch.

Mr. Sullivan.

MR. SULLIVAN: Thank you, your Honor, counsel for the government.

No fraud. Those were the first two words I spoke to you at open. The first two words I speak to you today, because this case is totally absent of fraud. The government is right in closing argument that I promised you an enormous amount of quality. I stick by that promise, and I'm going to take you through it in painstaking detail to show you the concern for quality in the company.

Counsel for the government says we're in the fantastical voyage two realities. That's absolutely true. I agree with counsel 100 percent. We have been dragged down the rabbit hole into Alice in Wonderland. We've been asked to look for evidence for four weeks that the government says is fraud, and I suggest to you that what it is, is men and women at work in the mortgage industry doing their jobs.

So let's begin. The government brought a very narrowly focused case here. It focuses on High-Speed Swim Lane loans. As it turns out, there aren't 28,000 of them as the government suggests. There are actually only 11,000. But

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who's counting. This is a fraud case about quality. We'll demonstrate how the government is wrong by 17,000 loans.

No evidence of fraud, no scheme to defraud, no misrepresentation, no violation of law. The government has the burden of proof, and the defense has none. Yet, we have essentially proven that there is no fraud and that there is quality. I'm not taking on the burden, but in essence that's what happened.

It is very hard to describe nothing. When I say nothing, I'm talking about weeks of evidence that amount to nothing when it comes to fraud. Nothing. I think of, to continue the baseball analogy, I think of Yankee Stadium on a snowy day. Picture the stadium, all the pictures we see, they're filled with fans. But an empty stadium, I think of a car running out of gas. Empty tanks. I think of the bottles piled up in the hallway. There are just empty water bottles with nothing in it. That's what this case is in terms of fraud. What fraud is.

Indeed, when the government tried to present witnesses who actually worked in the industry, either at Countrywide, or worked at Fannie and Freddie, their testimony, each and every time and their documents negate fraud. They bring witnesses that turn out to be witnesses favorable to the defense, and the evidence always points back to one thing. Reality. Reality. Men and women at work.

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I think of riding down a highway, how many times have we seen the sign men at work. Slow down. Men at work. That's all this evidence shows. When you think about it back there in the jury room, it's men and women at work doing their jobs in a difficult industry, the tedious processing of loans.

What we've seen here, really, is a government theory in search of evidence. And it is a very difficult burden, because the government's chief witness, Mr. O'Donnell, seeking a-million-six-five in money reward, he wrote a document saying there was no fraud when he lived it.

It is easy here in the 14th floor of a courthouse in New York to look back five or six years on the lives of men and women who were on the front line doing business, all of a sudden say this is fraud.

The government calls witnesses such as O'Donnell, Thomas, Boland, and Price, and what do they all do? They speak in normal tones of every day business. What's going on. person thinks this, one person thinks that. Government counsel makes a joke of collegiality. The one thing that stunned me is it's pretty collegial. Everybody has an idea, they send a memo, they think this, they think that. Everybody listens to each other. They don't do anything without getting a meeting with 20 people together. They have a 10, 12, 15 person committee to talk things out.

They bring expert witnesses, of course, that are

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working off statistics that they think are 28,000 loans, when they're actually wrong by about 17,000.

Each time this theory in search of evidence hits a brick wall, and I call that wall reality, so that's why I agree with the government that we really are in two different worlds. Counsel calls it a fantastical voyage into reality.

It is even implausible the case they make. It doesn't even sound like fraud. You would not expect a fraud to begin with two PhDs and a large steering committee and weeks of consultation with many persons in the company with different experience, different expertise. You would not expect the government's witness to say the plan was a good idea and had merit. But that's what happened in this case.

You would not normally design a pilot program to see if the fraud worked. You would not normally announce the fraud at a town hall meeting with 200 people present, play the Hustle dance, dance, and as one government witness said, it was fun. That's a very strange way to kickoff a fraud.

You wouldn't normally have a vigorous quality assurance program, including 20 people in India looking at the loan files at night after the workers in America had finished their work, to see how the fraud's going. To find the mistakes in the process.

You would not normally have a vigorous quality control program looking at loans that were produced by the so-called

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Seems inconsistent with a scheme to defraud, to have fraud. people doing quality control checks and getting these high statistics on them.

It seems inconsistent with the fraud to increase your number of audits during the midst of it from 408 to 1,742 audits. Why would you do that if you didn't care about control?

You would not normally make repeated changes. If there is one thing you see in this record for month after month, beginning in September, October, November, right through the end, you see changes, adjustments, changes, memos, e-mails and meetings to change the system to deal with some of the quality issues that they do find.

Finally, if it is really a fraud, you'd think you'd have a victim of the fraud who complained about something the defendants did or did not do in 2007 and 2008. They brought five witnesses from Fannie and Freddie Mac. Not one of them said anything negative about Hustle loans or about the process. Not one of them. They all failed to support the allegations of fraud.

I'd like to dive right into the evidence with you by focusing on their early witnesses. The government alleges that the indices of fraud are to be found in the speeding up of the loan production via Hustle in Central Fulfillment. removing the underwriters and using loan specialists.

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To this day, after all these weeks, the government doesn't seem to acknowledge that there actually were underwriters on this team. Remember the witnesses that There was a reduction in force in the company and some of the underwriters no longer could have a job, so they went to be loan specialists. That's why you see these loan specialists -- underwriters showing up on the team.

By the way, your Honor. I lost track of the time. What time did we start so I'll know when we finish?

THE COURT: You started at 11:40.

MR. SULLIVAN: Thank you, sir.

The government doesn't seem to want to acknowledge that every time they demean the people in the company by saying they're clerks, that loan specialists were there doing the job but some of the people who carried the title loan specialist were former underwriters, you saw that every time someone was circled.

How does the defense reply to these allegations? First off, the government's chief witness, Mr. O'Donnell, the whistle blower, actually approved many of these initiatives. If he's the good guy, he approved them. That's consistent with no fraud. His testimony negates the allegations of fraud. doesn't support them. And remarkably, as I'll show you in a second, he says there was no fraud. Actually wrote it in a memorandum. And in another memorandum he brags about the good

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work that he and others had done over this period of time.

Let's look first at slide number one, Alex, please. What did O'Donnell think about the High-Speed Swim Lane as he lived it? On May 14, Mr. O'Donnell wrote an e-mail saying that there was no fraud. Look at it. This is Defendant's 62. I'm quoting: It was reassuring to see all the controls we've had in place over the years. Sounds positive. Our exposure is to manufacturing quality, not fraud.

Why would a man write that if he ever thought there was fraud? Or unethical stuff, he says. He's writing to his colleague, Mr. Thomas. Here he says: I think we've reacted well each time we find a trend and seal the gaps.

That's exactly what happened. That was what was going on. As they worked through a process that they were putting in place that was a new process.

Mr. Thomas, the government's first witness responded to that e-mail. What did he say? Defendant's 62, page four. "Yes, that's what's difficult. All that noise cheapens the efforts everyone has made over the years in making sure we are doing the right things."

I almost want to sit down and do nothing more in the case. But of course, lawyers are dogs with a bone. I can't stop until my time runs out.

But that's the start. Hold on to that, think to yourself, whenever there is a suggestion about someone says

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something about fraud, that Mr. O'Donnell, the million-six man himself says there is no fraud as he lived it.

By the way, he doesn't say much different today. You could take his testimony. He looks like he tried to do his best. He didn't even come in here and say there was -- give evidence from which one could conclude there was fraud. let's proceed.

Eight months later on January 12, O'Donnell wrote another e-mail in which he bragged about the good job done by the people in his division. Plaintiff's 1, slide three, please.

Here he's telling -- this is just six months after the Hustle is over. Listen to his words: After experiencing challenges in Q4 2007 and early Q1 2008, we made changes to work flows, training content, authority certification and compensation plans that have played an important role in the returning division's results to target environment for quality as defined by corporate audit performance. We've effectively leveraged our central model and the results demonstrate our management team's ability to be responsive to rapid market shifts as well as internal standard adjustments.

That's what he said when he lived it. He praised the performance of his colleagues in the same document at page 75 of 197: The trending illustrates that the remediation enacted with legacy FSL during Q1 2008 had the desired impact of

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bringing quality back to the target environment. We will be finalizing Q3 QC results by midweek and it will be our second consecutive quarter under 4.5. Which is the target that they had.

On August 18, one week into the Hustle program, Mr. O'Donnell wrote an e-mail praising the process and bragging about the improvements. Look at this, at slide five. This is O'Donnell talking: Week one is behind us with Hustle and I think good initial progress was made. He closes by saying we've even seen a loan go clear to close in the same week they were approved.

He testified that designing the Hustle was a collaborative effort. He said it was a cross functional process they had. They brought experts in from all areas. Не testified that the results of the Hustle design process were announced to hundreds of people. He testified that he actually approved many of the practices and procedures.

The government now says it is an indicia of the fraud. For example, he wanted to streamline it, speed up the process. Look at this e-mail he wrote just before the process went into effect. This is July 2nd, 2007. Slide six, please. O'Donnell. Sounds like normal business. Normal concerns. Life as they lived it.

Let's face it. Loans take too long to fund He savs: here. Cost too much to move through our process and require

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far too many conversations

I got to hand it to you. They had a lot of conversations in that company.

Listen: Far too many conversations. Hand offs and This is O'Donnell talking. He says we have many steps in our work flow that were built for another time.

Yes. What is the other time? The subprime market that that division handled. He said built for another time. Different products or periods where margins were much more robust.

That's Mr. O'Donnell as he lived it. He further testified that he was asked, for example, a question: Mr. O'Donnell, you agreed that one of the things that needed to be changed was the amount of time it took to actually process a prime loan versus how long it took to process a subprime loan in the 2007 time period, is that correct? His answer: That's true. I believe that beginning before 2007, prime loans and subprime loans contained different levels of risk, so yes, that's true.

- "Q. With respect to the High-Speed Swim Lane, you wanted to deliver a measured process that would allow Full Spectrum Lending to fund good quality prime loans more quickly, is that correct?
- For some prime loans I supported them going That's true. through the process."

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Ladies and gentlemen, it took me until today to understand, really, what the flaw in the government's argument The basic flaw in the argument that I suggest you ponder in your deliberations. If I can find it. It's here. Here it is.

The failed logic in the argument is this. Now, I'm no expert at manufacturing anything. But the government told you to use your common sense, and here's where I ask you to use it. The flaw in the logic of the government, and you see it in the argument is this: The government thinks speed trumps quality. That speed wipes out quality. That speed negates quality. The government's argument is speed instead of quality. That's the That's the central flaw in the government's case. flaw.

When General Motors builds a car, do you think they know how long it takes from day one to whatever the day is it drives off the lot, I don't know, 10, 15, 40, I don't know. Does General Motors look at the process all the time to figure out how to build and robots and so forth a better car faster? Of course they do. But they don't end up by speeding up their line and developing a car that's not a quality car. Their goal always is a quality car.

The focus on speed is perfectly natural. Any manufacturing process has to focus on how long does it take to do it. Can we do it better. And that's what you've seen here.

How about a house. I don't know how long it takes to

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build a house. A year? 18 months? Well, if you built a house and it took three years, you're bound to lose money. anybody who ever made anything has to focus on speed and quality.

That's what these people were doing. They had to produce quality loans. It is all over their documents. All over their conversations. Quality was always on their mind. But they also had to speed it up. As some people said, one of the reasons you speed things up is for customer satisfaction. When customers want to buy a house or refinance a house, they don't want to sit there for 25, 40 days until they get it processed. So it is a combination.

By the way, let me correct the record. Counsel unfortunately mentioned borrowers being victimized. Please. This case has not one word of evidence with respect to borrowers. It is not about borrowers. Borrowers applied for loans because they want money. This is a process to get them money for their refinancing. That's what this is about. This is not about borrowers. This is about the High-Speed Swim Lane loans.

Here's another one. Slide seven. From Mr. O'Donnell. He confirmed the importance of speed in a deck prepared by him. This is May 2007. Look what he says: Prime loans need low touch, low cost processing. Prime borrowers require faster turn time to keep them from going elsewhere.

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We just listened to an argument in which turn time is It is a crime. It's indicia of crime. I don't mean a sin. It is an indicia of fraud. Here's Mr. O'Donnell crime. recognizing you need a better turn time.

The government says that it is an indication of fraud that Countrywide had loan specialists handle stated income It was Mr. O'Donnell that said it was a reasonable management practice to handle stated income loans.

The government claims that the removal of quality of grade penalty was tantamount to fraud. You heard that today in the argument. Mr. O'Donnell testified that he approved of quality -- QoG they call it -- quality of grade suspension during the pilot program at HSSL. It was explained to you there is a reason for that. You got new workers taking on new responsibilities, it is a good thing to say to them, do your best, do get the product done, increase the speed, and by the way, in this new process we are not going to ding your compensation X dollars. That is a management decision. That is not an indicia of fraud.

By the way, the government still at this late stage ridicules the rebuttal process and the suggestion that the rebuttal process is a fraud. They talk about it as if it's dirty somehow. Rebuttal process is when you have a lot of SUS findings, severely unsatisfactory, and now you're supposed to address them and see what you can do about them. It was a

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Summation - Mr. Sullivan

process that Mr. O'Donnell and all the other witnesses thought was a good process. You're supposed to look at it. You're supposed to correct it. Look at what Mr. O'Donnell says on transcript eight, please:

- "Q. Mr. O'Donnell, you thought that the rebuttal process was a valuable process to get to the right number, correct?
- "A. The right SUS number?
- **"**O. Yes."

Look at these words, ladies and gentlemen. Why are we talking about this four weeks into the case as something bad? I thought the rebuttal process was valuable in the sense that it gave us the opportunity to review with corporate QC their findings, and for us to provide any input or documentation if we believed the loan should have a lower rating."

How many of these things can you hear from the government about being bad, when their own witnesses, and this is Mr. good guy, says it is a valuable process. And don't think they talk about it just as it was normal because it was This is the way they lived it. This was part of their normal. work.

The government also claims that the sprint incentive was an indication of fraud. Sprint incentive, oh my goodness. Poker night down there at work. Or an Outback gift certificate is somehow dirty. Think about this. That's why I agree it is

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a fantastical voyage. The sprint incentive was designed -- and it was the idea of Mr. O'Donnell -- in order to get people enthusiastic about addressing the high SUS findings, so they that they could correct them and they did correct them in large measure.

Look, slide nine, Alex, please. Here's Mr. O'Donnell talking again. Very solid progress, he says. Very solid progress yesterday with concluding and successfully reducing initial SUS files. Need to keep that same pace today and tomorrow to ensure we achieve our goal of eliminating any backlog on initial SUS findings received by 5/1.

How can this at this stage in the game be talked about Looked further. The entire group, by the way, he says as bad? the entire group has a chance to earn some extra bucks for the effort. Let's make sure they see the direct connection between reduced random ratings and increased paychecks. Great day yesterday. Keep it up.

How can we any longer think about the rebuttal process or the sprint incentive as being wrong or an indicia of fraud? It was treated in the normal course. No witness testified that it was bad. No witness said they didn't think it should be done.

And the next witnesses we see, Boland and Price and all the rest of them, they were enthusiastically in favor of Mr. Boland, another chief witnesses of the government, it.

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he's writing memos asking the comptroller to approve the metrics in the bonus system. Government says that high scores in the QA is evidence of fraud. But Mr. O'Donnell confirmed the QA was mostly about process.

I hope by now we understand this. Quality assurance was dealing with the process. How do you make the table. How do you make the camera. Make it, 10 days to make it, watch the process, did they solder it the right way. It is not even up to the end product. Quality assurance they do that.

Quality control is once you've got it all made, now you look at it. Very different things. Very different.

And the government today says, like they said in opening, oh my gosh, it's so high, these process things, they were so high. They were coming in from India. By the way, they acknowledge half of them were wrong anyway. Half of them, the quality people in India were wrong. They thought something was in the file, it wasn't in the file. But they found out the standard operating procedure of the company didn't require it to be in the file.

Listen to O'Donnell's words. The government tried to conflate the high scores in quality assurance in the process. But all the witnesses say it is just process. And the witnesses, including the Fannie and Freddie witnesses, say that we didn't pay any attention to that. What they did internally, we're interested in the final product. Which makes sense, of

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Here's O'Donnell again on this issue. Slide 10, Alex, Listen. The QA reviews to date have been heavily please. focused on process steps. I believe it's tough to draw conclusions directly from those.

The government wants you to draw conclusions to that, ladies and gentlemen. They want you to draw conclusions that that's fraud. O'Donnell says he can't even draw conclusions when he lived it about its affect on the process or even the QC findings alone. He says, further, much has changed in the marketplace with regard to quality standards since we started discussions about HSSL last summer.

O'Donnell also testified that it is unreasonable to expect no loans to be defective. Even though some defects were unavoidable, O'Donnell e-mails confirm that his division was very serious about quality.

Look at this one. DX 56, slide 11. Our prime business model has CLUES as the centerpiece handling the vast majority of eligibility decisions.

Isn't that what the government is saying is wrong here? We empowered our branch and Central Fulfillment managers and loan specialists with authority to validate CLUES input and clear a higher percentage of conditions. Isn't that what the government is complaining about? Didn't sound like he's upset by it then when he lived it five or six years ago, 3,000 miles

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away. He says this additional authority comes with great responsibility and accountability.

He further says, how about this one. FSL, his division, has enjoyed the strongest reputation for quality among Countrywide's divisions for many years.

Why are they changing all of a sudden? They are adapting to changes forced upon them by market conditions. They're trying to find better systems.

Maybe the problem is whenever you get two PhDs to design something you've got problems. Maybe it should be one PhD per project. Both of those gentlemen, did they appear credible? You saw both of the doctors on the stand. One a space engineer. Do you think for a minute when you saw that flow chart up there that that gentleman thought he was designing a process to facilitate some fraud? This is ridiculous.

Lastly, to underscore the absurdity of the fraud allegations, Mr. O'Donnell testified that he actually applied for the top job in the Central Fulfillment Division. hardly something you would do if they were perpetrating a "I want to be the head of this fraud." Doesn't make fraud. sense. If he's in an environment where they're doing something wrong, why doesn't he leave? Why doesn't he stand up and scream like any responsible person would do.

What you see here is men and women at work.

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faulting O'Donnell. I am just saying that the twists that's being put on the life O'Donnell and others lived makes no sense.

He's not alone. Let's quickly look at some of the others. How about Thomas, Boland and Price. The government again says the High-Speed Swim Lane was part of a fraudulent scheme, but Thomas testified he was on the design team with lots of others. He says, yes, I was on the original kind of design team that was coming up with ideas how to improve efficiency. Thomas testified that it was 10 or 15 people on it. Price testified there was a large group of people on it. Boland testified that High-Speed Swim Lane was a collaboration bringing the best people together. Boland further testified that he thought Hustle was a great design. Let's look at slide 12.

What was your understanding in the summer of 2007 of how the Hustle would work?"

Look at these words as he lived it.

"A. So the Hustle was great. It was a great design. The idea was well, was well thought out. And our opinion was this, this could work."

He further says Hustle's intent. Government says fraud. Here is the man that lived it. "Hustle's intent was to have a separate swim lane for loans with reduced documentation, and therefore those loans would not be hung up behind other

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loans that required heavier documentation."

Isn't that what all the witnesses said about this process? Yes. Fantastical different worlds.

He further said, let me continue with that slide 12. "The idea of a High-Speed Swim Lane is that if I've got a very difficult loan with a lot of documentation, I might take a majority of my day working on that one loan. While a loan with less requirements sits still and doesn't get a chance to move ahead." Boland speaking. Government witness. "The theory would be if we put all of the easy loans into one lane, or not easy, but all of the less complicated loans in one lane, they would then flow and the others would, you know, be in the normal process. So in theory that flow had merit."

Thomas, the government witness, testified the Hustle process was to move loans more quickly. We felt like those loans could move more quickly because they didn't need manual underwriting.

Thomas again: CLUES determined that it was an acceptable quality loan based on the information that was put into CLUES so you didn't have to redecision the file. Thomas testified that he supported the efforts to become more efficient.

You know, by the way, I don't know, I guess I might not understand this, that's up to you to decide it, I quess, but was the government today suggesting that Cliff Kitashima

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and Greg Lumsden were involved in this fraud? I don't know. I think they were. You saw Mr. Kitashima. Laughingly suggesting he didn't care because he is about to retire. Probably worked 40 years. Now the government calls him a fraudster? What is this about? Just do that? If that was the case, and I don't know whether I heard it correctly. If it was the case, then I'll note to you that Mr. O'Donnell -- Mr. Thomas had great respect for those two gentlemen.

Think about this now. Government witness testified in this court, two of them, that they had -- I'll read you the testimony.

- "O. I take it had you high regard for Mr. Lumsden.
- "A. Not always the decisions he made, but yes. I found him --I respected him.
 - "Q. In fact, you had a very good relationship with his boss
 Mr. Cliff Kitashima?
 - "A. I did."

Then Mr. O'Donnell in the memo that he did not send.

One memo in the case he never sent, there is no date on it. He says, he wrote in that memo: I have enormous respect for both you — he is writing to Kitashima — and Greg, and have learned a great deal working under the direction and support of both of you.

Could you possibly say that to a person that you thought was involved in a fraud? How far can we be pressed in

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this case to find fraud when there is none? It is counter to everything you've heard, every document you have seen.

How about Boland's testimony? He was asked about loan processors.

"Sir, do you know whether certain loan processors at Full Spectrum Lending between '07 and '09 had underwriting background?

Do I know if they had background? "A.

"Q. Yes, sir. Whether there were certain of the loan processors that had underwriting background.

"A. Yes."

You didn't hear one word from the government about that in opening or closing that in fact there were underwriters there. They want you to believe they were just clerk, idiots, didn't know what they were doing. Untrained. Talk about painting a picture that is horribly unfair. Not only to you, but to them. The decent people, the people that came in here. You heard the people that came in here, Mrs. Flores, mother of four kids, travels 3,000 miles to present herself here in this courtroom. A woman of substance. A woman proud to work for Bank of America. Told you about her job. About her training. That's what she testified about. Acknowledges she was an underwriter and people worked for her. She put a circle on the chart.

The government somehow suggests that Hustle was a

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fraud because it relied on CLUES instead of human underwriters. But Mr. Thomas himself wrote on December 2nd, December 19, 2007, the following. Slide 15, Alex, please. We hear this. It seemed to be almost wrong to say CLUES is the underwriter. There is a meaning for things said in the industry. Look what he writes. This is Mr. Thomas. CLUES is the underwriter. should be clear that there is no approval of these PCA files. The underwriter branch office manager or loan specialist do not

The government claims it is an indication of fraud that Countrywide would allow loan specialists to clear CLUES conditions before they were funded. But in August 30, 2007, Thomas wrote he wanted loan specialists to clear CLUES conditions.

approve these files. CLUES does.

Slide 16. He writes in there: I don't think the loan specialists and underwriting roles should be separated. Further, when both do their jobs separately, we've seen delays and missed opportunities. What Hustle can bring with a combined role and skill set is the ability for the loan specialist to use underwriting specialists to clear conditions.

Wasn't it one of the indices of fraud that loan specialists should not be clearing conditions? And that's what he writes in here. He wants them to clear conditions. Mr. Thomas goes on in his testimony. He says that quality assurance was kind of an internal thing. This is an internal

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- 1 thing. We might have expectations for what we thought it might, should be, but there was nothing required at a certain 2 3 level.
 - "Q. Wasn't quality assurance focusing on the very process, the steps that were taken along the way?
 - "A. The quality assurance was in-line quality assurance. Which meant that it was before funding."

He went on to explain in the real world. He said you would fix, obviously, you would fix the problems. He went on to say the real intent was to look at issues in the process that may cause larger issues down the road so you can correct the problems. That's what quality assurance was for.

Mr. Thomas testified about the rebuttal process too. This awful part of the case, rebuttal and sprint incentive. He was asked -- slide 18, Alex, please.

- And I take it this rebuttal process is an important part of the function in order to have quality product, am I correct? "A. Yeah. I would say that the rebuttal process was an important final step to validate and ensure that the final ratings were correct."
- 19, please, Alex. Look at this one. Thinking again about the opening and the closing of the government suggesting that the rebuttal process is rigged final QC scores. What did he say?
- "O. What were quality control reports?

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"A. So we had a monthly routine to review defects and it was a healthy routine. Nobody enjoyed it, but we looked at all our defects and there could be multiple people involved in the loan, so it didn't matter whether the loan officer made a mistake, the loan specialist made the mistake or the underwriter made a mistake."

How about this one. Slide 20. Still Thomas: "Q. And did you express any opinion on the sprint incentive at FSL?

"A. I was supportive of the sprint incentive. I designed the metrics around it," He says. "I had to measure it so I designed the metrics."

Can't we put something to rest in a case? Do we have to hear about it as bad on opening statement and bad today? How can it be bad today? That demonstrates to you the credibility of the government in this case. How can you say that? How can you look at a jury and say this is bad or an indicia of fraud today after four weeks of taking all of our lives in this courtroom to see the evidence. The evidence says that it is perfectly fine and they thought it was perfectly fine.

Look at this one. Thomas testified he helped design the sprint incentive with Mr. O'Donnell. Mr. O'Donnell testified it was his idea. His idea.

Question to Thomas: It was important enough for you and

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O'Donnell to recommend there actually be a bonus program." my God, a bonus program. "Bonus program for the work that you were asking these 36 people to undertake, am I correct? That's correct. The concern was that the volume was so high that there was this potential that they may not effectively go through the rebuttal process just because the volume was so high. You had a time limit to rebut these loans. That's the reason for the rebuttal -- the incentive. wanted to tell people, work hard, you get extra pay if we can deal with this quality control SUS findings."

These are their witnesses. These are their four witnesses they brought from the company right there. If only I had the courage to just sit down. Let you do your work sooner. But I admit, I have to keep going.

Let me tell you something about quality now. I say again I've been accused of making a false promise at opening. I'm too old to think I can fool juries with false promises. I've been in the rodeo before. Never say anything to a jury that I can't prove.

The quality and the concern for quality in this case jumps off of every document that you've looked at. You have 250 exhibits. If you want to go and have those 250 exhibits, take another four weeks of your life and read every word of them out loud in there, I'll be right here waiting for you. Right in the corridor. Pacing, waiting for your decision. And

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as you read that, every document that you think is fraud, you put in one pile, and every document you think is a genuine concern and discussion about quality and how to get there, you put in another. And you'll be like that.

Because you can read little clips and blurbs here and there, but you want take away the ocean of concern, I use the word overwhelmingly. I stick by it. I double it. I double overwhelming if you read those documents.

People doing their job. Everybody has a little different focus. The quality crew, they have their focus. The production people, they have their focus. And that's how people come together and do their business.

The government on the other hand calls the promise a They said that the division gutted safeguards, turned a joke. blind eye, they say quality assurance 90 percent were lemons. They say that quality results showed 30 percent loans were not. I don't know where the 30 percent comes from. On the figures they have to deal with, 4.5, 9.8, 5.8, and the 9 figure, they're right there in the record. That's what it is. You can open the case by saying 30 percent, one in three. I guess you can close the case saying one in three, but that's not what it is.

Let's look at slide 35. This is a report. This is a document from Freddie Mac. Freddie Mac by way is the victims here, right? Victims. Every fraud has to have a victim.

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Fannie Mae, look what does it say. It says -- it's hard to read. I guess you can read on your screen. This is their report.

Underwriting satisfactory. That's what it says November 15, 2007. That's their report. Talk about quality. Let's see the quality from their perspective. They thought it was satisfactory. CHL maintains solid controls over the underwriting and appraisal management functions. Controls are in place to monitor underwriter's performance, address processing deficiencies, provide fraud control procedures, provide appraisal review procedures, and ensure consistent process through documented procedures. CHL's controls are in line with its peer group and industry standards, which supports a satisfactory rating.

This is the report of the victim. This is after a five-day site visit on September 14, 10 to 14 in 2007. Right in the midst of the so-called fraud.

Look, quality standards were in force from the top. You saw the memo of Drew Gissinger. He emphasized the focus to be on quality. They made fun of Jack Schakett coming here. The number two man. I'm sure he just wanted to come and spend a few days in New York for nothing. He came and testified to this jury. He underscored how important quality was. underscored it. He testified that it was important. what he wanted in his company. He said he wanted to be as

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accurate as possible. They wanted to ensure the controls were in place to produce the best quality product. These two men oversaw about 90 percent of the employees in this company.

Countrywide had many procedures and systems to achieve quality.

Let's start with the way the Hustle project was designed and implemented. Rather than just put a new process in place, they put a design team together. The design team included most everybody that would have input. Eventually the process was pilot tested, because that's a reasonable thing to do.

You know, Mr. Battany came here, a former Fannie Mae fellow who had been in business for 21 years, and he was asked this question:

- If you knew that the persons who were processing these loans and evaluating these loans at Countrywide were loan processors as opposed to underwriters, would that have affected your decision whether or not to purchase?
- "A. No, it would not affect it."

That's the case, why are we still arguing about the lack of underwriters? When in fact the underwriters were there on the same teams.

Mr. Battany was asked further:

"Q. Why would it not have affected your purchasing decision, Mr. Battany?"

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Takes us back to the different worlds we're in. 1

Using processors to operate either CLUES or DU was common "A. in the industry. And Fannie Mae was aware of it, as I recall bringing this to Fannie Mae's attention."

Remember that CLUES of course is that computer that Fannie and Freddie actually checked, so that they know it's similar to theirs. So if you put a loan into the CLUES computer, it comes out with the same kind of answers as if you put it into their own computers. They're calibrated -- had -they've got it programmed so Fannie and Freddie are satisfied. You heard that from Battany. He said that CLUES loans did conform, he said that Fannie Mae approved a special variance for Countrywide to allow CLUES loans to be delivered to Fannie Mae. He said from his experience, with respect to managing Countrywide, the loans were eligible for the contracts and the Fannie selling quide plus any variances. That's the way it worked.

Many loan processors were former underwriters. By the way, Ed O'Donnell identified a number of them. Let's see slide number 56. When he testified, he actually identified, do you remember that little interesting story about when he came to Countrywide, he brought some people with him? He brought some people with him that he respected at his former company, and they came because they liked him and they worked in the He brought them, we assume, because he thought that company.

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they were qualified. Not a government view five, six years later that maybe the people working on these things were not. He, Mr. O'Donnell, circled the underwriters that he himself knew on this chart, as you may remember the testimony in order to indicate which ones were former underwriters.

Also interesting to note, ladies and gentlemen, that so much is made in the government argument, both in opening and today, about the quality assurance program. Don't forget the testimony that the quality assurance program was actually started in order to monitor this Hustle program. That's why it was there. In order to see the Hustle program was functioning properly and consistently. The quality assurance program was not dictated by corporate headquarters, and it was not dictated by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac.

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MR. SULLIVAN: By the way, do you remember Mr. Battany testified about the audits that were -- he said basically these quality assurance things were of little importance to them. He didn't focus on those. Those were something that the company focused on to better their process. His focus was always on the end process.

Now I want to take a minute here in terms of quality, since we're talking about quality, and focus just a little bit on something else that was brought today up before we break for lunch in about ten minutes, and is about the doorman loan that was talked about.

This exhibit here, PX, Government Exhibit 433, is the loan file. You will see it in the jury room, I guess you might have to take four months to read that, both sides of the page, loan file. This is the loan file to the doorman.

In opening, a lot was made out of the fact that this loan file was scandalous, that it showed you how bad the Hustle program was. The opening went something like: The borrower earned \$13,000 a month as a doorman, but some basic underwriting would have found, looking at salary.com, that a doorman in that area of the country wouldn't have been making more than \$6,000 a month. If they had done some basic underwriting in terms of getting a verification of employment, they would have found that this actual borrower only earned \$5,000 a month.

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Oh, my goodness this is an attention grabber for the It's an attention grabber. jury.

When assessing the quality of the government's evidence, in addition to assessing the fact that there is none about fraud, you should be aware that sometimes the evidence that the government introduces is just plain wrong. Probably a mistake. Just plain wrong. This is one example of just plain wrong.

In order to talk about this file, they brought two witnesses. The first was Maria Brewster. She testified about what the number was, slide 50. Let's take a look. Finding the number of where this file was done, this file, the testimony was loan number 188677894 and the Countrywide processing branch was 6114. They then brought Lars Hansen to testify this loan was in the group of Hustle loans that he had one of the 28,000. He said he confirmed it.

But I have shocking news for you, this is not even a Hustle loan. This was brought to show you: Oh, isn't the Hustle program bad? Not even a Hustle loan. Just a mistake on people's part, but it says something about the quality of the evidence, I guess, of the SUS, severely unsatisfactory. It was not produced by a Hustle branch.

How do we know that? The branch number is 6114. It's a field branch. Field branches do not produce Hustle loans, only Central Fulfillment branches produce those loans.

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Let's take a look at slide 52. It says right there the Central Fulfillment process replaces the existing NCS model for the sales volume generated by and processed within these centers only. Look at the last sentence. Field branches and other NCS branches will continue to use the existing model. other words they didn't use the HSS model.

Now Mr. Thomas came and he testified, he said that field branches did not process Hustle loans. On page 11 of Plaintiff's Exhibit, their own exhibit, 232, that is slide 53, it shows you that 6144 is listed.

On Plaintiff's Exhibit 232, this document, 232 is worth a look when you're in the jury room, if you can remember it, because it's so boring. It's just a list, page after page of a list. It was faxed by Mr. Thomas, according to his testimony, right to the U.S. Attorney's Office on January 9, 2013 because they wanted to find out which were Hustle loans and which were not Hustle loans. It goes from page 03 here to page 15 in the back. As you read down it, branch fulfillment is a field office, Central Fulfillment, it says, and it lists numbers that's where the Hustle loans were prepared.

The most boring cross-examination of the whole case was my examination of Mr. Thomas on this letter. I went through it page by page. You must have thought I was nuts. Ιt was first thing in the morning. You couldn't have possibly figured out what it was. And I asked him this question:

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Everything below that, for every page for the rest of the document, page 8, page 9, page 10, page 11, page 12, page 13, page 14, page 15, page 16 are all field operations, am I correct? Field operations do not produce Hustle loans. This is not a field operation, it is not a Hustle loan.

So you have been lingering for four weeks thinking about oh, my goodness, the doorman's 13,000, how could the Hustle project be so bad that it let that go through? Well, mistakes are made, but it's not a Hustle loan. By mistake, we're led to believe that it was.

If there's any doubt whatsoever, Mr. Anthony Ho, the MIT grad with a facility for numbers confirmed it when he was What's the branch number? It's a bunch of zeros asked: initially, but 6114.

"Q. Was this branch number among the branch numbers you identified as Central Fulfillment branches?

"A. No."

Meaning it's a field branch. Field branches cannot produce Hustle loans.

Sometimes mistakes are made even under the best circumstances. You know, what we have here is a theory in search of evidence, and sometimes you can be too eager. But this is just one file. What about the evidence that was relied upon by their experts, which we'll get to after lunch, when their experts are relying upon 28,000 Hustle loans? In fact,

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they're wrong by about 17,000. We'll talk about evidence and how a jury can rely on that. We'll see that after lunch, and I think it's exactly my time.

THE COURT: All right. Ladies and gentlemen, so we will take an hour for lunch and reconvene at 20 minutes before 2.

(Jury not present)

THE COURT: All right. Anything that counsel needs to raise to the Court?

MR. ARMAND: Yes, your Honor, there were a number of statements by defense counsel that went into the mental state of employees of Countrywide who are not alleged to have fraudulent intent in this case. And it was our understanding from the Court's rulings yesterday that was something that was off limits with regard to Mr. Barnett who said --

THE COURT: What I said yesterday was that I didn't want statements about state of mind unrelated to the Hustle program. Now what you are referring to, which was not part of my statement yesterday but did come up earlier in the case, was I sustained evidentiary objections to some but not all questions to persons other than the three whose intent is directly in question as to their states of mind. There were exceptions to that in particular circumstances. So I take it your reference is not to what I said yesterday, which apparently you misunderstood, but to those earlier rulings.

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But the argument that Mr. Sullivan was making, as I understood it, was that these people who were working on the Hustle loan wouldn't have been doing the kind of work they did, such as checking quality and so forth, if they had thought they were really involved in a fraud. I think that's not precluded by any ruling of the Court, and I think that, within limits, is an argument that can be made. So I overrule the objection.

Of course, I was as surprised as anyone by Mr. Sullivan's constant referral to himself as a cowardly wimp who didn't have the courage to sit down after making varying arguments. This is not the Sullivan of reputation, but I have a feeling that it was rhetorical.

In any event, anything else?

MR. ARMAND: No, your Honor.

THE COURT: Very good. We'll see you all at 2 o'clock.

(Luncheon recess taken)

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(Jury present)

THE COURT: Just so you know the line-up for this afternoon, ladies and gentlemen, bank counsel have another hour, we will then take a very short ten-minute break, then Ms. Mairone's counsel will have an hour, and then we'll take another ten-minute break, and then we'll hear from the government on rebuttal. So there will be two breaks, but they will be short, to clue you into that. Let it not be said that I don't give jurors a break.

So, counsel.

MR. SULLIVAN: I was so excited to start today that I forgot to join with counsel in thanking you. We know what turmoil this creates, and we appreciate your patience. Also appreciate your humor and the tip of the hat to the relief pitchers.

Let me focus now, as I said I would before the lunch, on what we call the number of loans that the government is focusing on. As I said, this case is very narrowly focused. The government focused it on the High-Speed Swim Lane loans. And of course, the issue comes up: How many? The government says 28,000. The fact of the matter is they're way off, and the reason they're way off you is will see from Exhibit 232, which lists all the branches that create High-Speed Swim Lane loans, only the only ones that create the High-Speed Swim Lane loans are the branches called Central Fulfillment.

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As you might imagine, we talked about Central Fulfillment. That's what -- that's where the process was. Ιt was not in the field branches. When you get a chance to look at this exhibit in the jury room.

Perhaps could you put that up, 232 for a second, slide 48, just to give you an example, when you look at the pages in it, you can go starting at page 11, for example, pick any page, up on the top left hand corner it says "Field."

I could point out field, this is Central Fulfillment and that's field. Go to page 11 or 12 if you could and look at the top left, any page that has the word "field" on it, and most of those pages do at the back. They were numbered in the examination, none of them produced High-Speed Swim Lane, and the problem was the government took this and they counted all of them, they counted all the field branches where in fact none of the field branches produced High-Speed Swim Lane loans.

To be exact, the government opened by saying there were 30,000 loans, then they had experts testify there were 28,882, and the fact that it was so high is because they included loans produced by the field branches and they should have included only the loans produced by Central Fulfillment.

So in fact, there are 11,481 High-Speed Swim Lane So the government is essentially off by 17,000. That's a lot of loans. So their experts come and use as a predicate and testify the whole predicate for what they're saying is

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28,000, and the 165 million, that's predicated on 28,000 loans, not 11,000 loans. So obviously there's an extraordinary difference between the two.

I remind you by looking at slide number 47 that DX31 specifically says field branches and other NCS centers will continue to use the existing model, not the new model, the High-Speed Swim Lane model. One place that you find that. Thomas' cross-examination he made it clear that it was Central Fulfillment branches where the Hustle loans were processed. was asked that question, and he gave the answer: Correct.

Of course, their experts relied upon the larger Another confirmation of the fact that it's 11,000 is found in the testimony of Anthony Ho, who is a Bank of America employee, grad of MIT, who seemed to like numbers more than most of us. And his testimony is reflected on slide number 49 which is Exhibit 1928. There you'll see the number 11,481. actually worked with the documents. Unlike the government experts he looked at the documents, he looked at the documents, counted them up, and of course knows that field operations do not produce Hustle loans.

Now for one more moment, let's look at -- the government's opening statement today about experts and talked about Dr. Holt and Cowan, and I remind you the predicate of what they did is predicated on that population. But the other interesting thing is that our expert, Mr. Broeksmit, had a very

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limited assignment. Their expert essentially did this, he looked at 383 loans and he found a problem with 185 of them. So if you could think of that, in other words, he examined and looked at 343 and found a problem with 185, and he came in and told you missing appraisal licenses was 41 and so forth. Let's put that chart up there for a minute, 57. This is basically their expert's tally, so to speak.

And what did our expert do? He wasn't assigned to look at all the files to determine whether they were quality files. He has one narrow assignment: Look at the expert, Mr. Holt, and when he said he found problems in 185 files, would you look at that and see if he's right. And his testimony, as you may recall, was that he found that he was wrong 154 times. So if you recall his testimony, just looking at this chart, he said, for example, that he described some of the work he did. He said one loan was missing a required tax form, according to the government expert, but it was actually in the file. That's what he did. If he had a compliant about what was in the file, he would go back and see if he could find it in the file.

Another instance was there was one file was missing pay stubs, so the government expert said oh, well, that's a deficient file. Now along comes Mr. Broeksmit, he looks in the file and finds pay stubs.

To give you an example, Mr. Holt, the government

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expert, said 59 of the loans were missing mortgage insurance, and that's what his tally is. Missing mortgage insurance. Just as an example, you could see it up there as a second column, 59 times, but our expert said it didn't have to be in the file, it was located in a central place in Countrywide, we call them up and get on the computer and all the information is there, not in the file. That's what the experts were

And I point out to you that the predicate is incorrect for their experts. By the way, one of the interesting things that presents in looking at files that are as thick as this, there can be a lot of area for human error on the part of loan processors, on the part of people that look at them five or six years later, someone thinks there's a document -- not a document in the file and in fact there is a document. Obviously takes a lot of time and effort to go and track these things down.

Once again, returning to the issue of quality -- your Honor, would you remind me again what time I started?

THE COURT: Yes, 1:53.

MR. SULLIVAN: 1:53. Maybe could you give me a five-minute warning?

THE COURT: Sure.

MR. SULLIVAN: Thank you. When we talked about quality this morning we were talking about the quality

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assurance and we spoke briefly about errors in the quality assurance by the auditors, which all the witnesses acknowledge. And we talked about it as the high numbers that government uses and wants to leap from there into the final end product. They're very, very different animals, so to speak. All witnesses testified consistently that the quality assurance process is focusing on the process itself, and the quality control is focusing on the end product. That's where you get the corporate quality control looking at the files, and that's where you get the rebuttal process if there's an SUS finding.

And as Mr. Kitashima testified, as other witnesses did, QA is not an indication of quality. It could went be It's not an indication of quality from the standpoint of investment grade the. It really is to determine whether the process is being followed. That's what I believe, and I ask you to be careful of when you focus on the government's argument. They tend to conflate quality assurance and those high process figures with the fact that oh, my goodness, oh, how could it have a quality product if it has those issues in the process itself? But it could be corrected, and that's why the end product bears no resemblance to the high numbers.

Now the focusing for a minute and switching from quality assurance to quality control, we have already talked about this a little bit, quality control measures the end That's the SUS finding. During the government's process.

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argument you heard them say that corporate QC findings was 30 percent of the Hustle loans were not investment quality, but Countrywide undertook to make it look like it was lower. These allegations are flatly rejected by the evidence. The QC review evaluated sample loans that were already funded to determine whether they were eligible for sale. If a loan was found to be SUS, Countrywide personnel would then have the opportunity to study the loan and to take steps to correct it. And that's what was done. That's what the rebuttal process is. what the witnesses call a healthy process. Boland agrees with it, Thomas agrees with it, and they testified consistently with that throughout.

Now Mr. Battany, the Fannie Mae person who has the most contact with Countrywide, and said he virtually was in contact with them every day. He was asked this question: you aware of the various points in time in 207 and 208 with regard to Countrywide's SUS rates? Yes, I was.

Now these results, as you remember from the chart that you have seen many times were 5.5, 9.8 and 4.4. And he basically said that that would not have had an impact when he was purchasing the loans. The question was this to him: respect to the SUS rates for the division for the fourth quarter of '07, the first quarter of '08 and the second quarter of '08, as purchasing agent, if you had known these SUS rates, would you have continued to purchase loans from Countrywide?

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Answer: Yes.

The rates are there, they're the result of the corporate quality control process, they're recorded, they're there to see, and he said it would not have affected him. Because they know that there's a certain defect rate industry wide, and the Countrywide rate is within it. Then he went to say, for example, that Fannie Mae does not expect every loan to be perfect.

Let me switch for a moment to training. government mocks the, quote, clerks. It suggests that they had a bunch of unskilled people down there on the front line, the company liked it that way, that underwriters weren't on the scene and so forth. That's far from the truth. The company made an extraordinary effort to train people and the teams were made up, as you have seen through some of the witnesses, with persons who formerly were underwriters. Mr. Porteck was asked about classes, he said these were the classes, he actually listed them. You may remember this, slide 39, he went down this list of classes and said I took them and I had my people take them.

Now obviously, with respect to quality, CLUES is one of the biggest, most powerful tools that the company used to quarantee quality because it's programmed in a way that's satisfactory to Fannie and Freddie. They check the contents of it, make sure that it reacts to a particular loan the way their

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own system would react. So CLUES in itself is a piece of equipment or a tool, a computer program that is very sophisticated that the company uses to assure quality, because when loans go in, the computer says this is either acceptable with conditions or they refer it to an underwriter.

In addition, you may remember that the COO of the company came and described SASE, SASE, Signing Authority Signature Enforcement, a process which is really designed to make sure that the right person is doing the right job. As he explained, we want our underwriters to be working on the most complicated loans. We don't need people that are underwriters working on every loan. And that's why you saw in the evidence, and you see it again in the jury room, these charts, level one, level two, what they can do, can they authorize a million dollar loan, and exactly what their authority is.

What does that show you? Someone goes to a lot of effort to put those kind of controls in. It's one of many, many examples of quality control that the company utilized during this period on these particular loans. And to give you an example, if you look at slide 58, which looks very similar to the one I had in opening, these are some of the -- this is just a demonstrative, you don't have this in the jury room, it's a demonstrative, it shows you month by month what was done.

All of these consistent efforts to do every one of

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these kinds of things, to add coaches, to have a new stated income responsibility, job data, to have a new income calculator, to quadruple the number of random audits, all of these things are indications of the quality right through from December '07 down through May of 2008. Why would they be doing these thing if they did not want quality product? There's no explanation for it. And the fact is quality was achieved. Ιf we look at the evidence in the case, they measure quality. And here is the chart, put up slide 41. This is the one we've been referring to. If you could blow it up.

These are the final scores, 5.4, 9.85 and 4.4. are the basic quality range. And by the way, yes, 9.8 is a little high, and that's why they took aggressive action to change various things. But Alex, if you could go back one quarter, there's actually a time on there where they have 13 percent on this chart right there. The Hustle program was not even in effect then. This happens in business sometimes, they see a spike and they correct it, and that's what the evidence shows here.

The bottom line, when it comes to their own quality scores, they know the company wasn't perfect, but it was clearly acceptable to their Fannie and Freddie buyers. Quality was within the range of expectations. As I showed you one point it was 9.8, they didn't like it, and they made corrections. That's what a company does that's intending to

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have good quality.

The fact of the matter is that all of these documents, and you can pile them up, if you just take the documents and spent a little time reading them and see what they're attempting to do in making corrections, changing quality, putting in controls, for every focus that they have on quality, if you gave a dollar to Mr. O'Donnell, he wouldn't need the million six five because there are literally hundreds of examples in those records that show the effort the company is making to make its product a quality product.

Now I want to talk to you for just a moment about -would you put up transcript 26, please. This is testimony from Freddie Mac's Mr. Tanabe, and it's very instructive, and it tells you something about the standards. Counsel for the government indicated that there was a four percent standard in the industry defect rate. That's what you heard this morning, four percent. Here's what the people that actually work in the industry tell you.

This was the testimony of Mr. Tanabe: In the 2007, and '8 time period, Mr. Tanabe, what was the industry standard for that NAQ number? Reminding you that that's non-acceptable quality.

I can speak to what Freddie Mac's average at that time frame was.

Question: What was that number, sir?

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Answer: 18 to 20 percent.

18 to 20 percent, ladies and gentlemen. That is from the representative of the so-called victim. The statistics that we have in the company are much less than that. You have just seen them on the board.

Forget Freddie for a minute and let's go to Fannie, transcript 27. Here's the testimony from Mr. Sobczak, a government witness, Mr. Sobczak: Are you familiar with the national significant findings rate? Each called a little different thing. Are you familiar with the national significant finding rate for 2007 and '8 time period?

Answer: Yes, I am.

What is the rate, sir?

It's approximately 25 percent, give or take a couple of percentage points.

Can you explain to us what that means?

Answer: A significant finding, as I mentioned, is a potential grounds for Fannie Mae asking a lender to repurchase a loan that they delivered. So 25 percent would mean that approximately one in four loans delivered to Fannie Mae had some flaw, or should Fannie Mae choose, it could choose to have a lender repurchase that loan.

Ouestion: And that rate is across all lenders?

National significant findings rate, yes.

Question: So is that essentially like an industry

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standard rate or something like that?

That is Fannie Mae, that's Fannie Mae's rate for the deliveries it received.

So how do you weigh that with an allegation by the government? There's no evidence that we were one in four, or 18 to 20 percent. FSL loans were better than that. So what are we talking about here? Where's the fraud? Where's the evidence of fraud?

Every one of GSE witnesses, and they called four or five of them, testified about the real world in a positive way regarding the company. Counsel for the government said this morning that Fannie and Freddie could not inspect their loans, they had to rely on Full Spectrum Lending. That's not the testimony. You heard detailed testimony about how the GSEs, Fannie and Freddie, come on site, see what is going on, they randomly check loans, they talk about four different ways that people check loans. One was the NAQ process, a second was the LP emulator, the third was the collateral models, and four was the performance of loans.

When the government said that they could not inspect, they had to rely upon Full Spectrum Lending, that's contrary to everything you heard from the witness stand. What are these people doing over there? They're not just opening mail. have systems and people that --

MR. CORDARO: Objection, your Honor.

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THE COURT: I'm a little concerned about this. The jury should understand, while this may be relevant for impeachment purposes, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are not on trial in this case in any respect. The question is not what they did or failed to to at all, it is purely a question of what the defendants did or failed to do.

MR. SULLIVAN: Yes, your Honor, and I was just addressing counsel's point and that was my only point.

THE COURT: Thank you.

MR. SULLIVAN: Thank you.

I would like to address a couple of things about what Mr. Battany said. He was here testifying and he was asked the following question: You mentioned, Mr. Battany, conforming to Fannie Mae quides. Did CLUES accept loans that conformed to Fannie Mae guides?

Answer: CLUES loans did conform. Fannie Mae approved a special variance for Countrywide to allow CLUES loans to be delivered to Fannie.

By the way, there's a lot of talk and conversation in this case about stated income loans. What have we learned about stated income loans? It was a product -- and I must confess to you it's an unusual product. It was a product in which a borrower could actually state the income, and the rules set by Fannie and Freddie were that you could not ask for documentation such as pay stubs or tax returns. Countrywide

didn't make the rules, but they had to follow them. And so there was much talk by the government about allowing stated income loans to go through the Hustle process.

Interestingly enough, their expert witness, guess how many stated income loans he found a problem with? 13. I don't know what the significance is except 13 in all that he looked at were stated income loans he found a problem with. You heard testimony that some of the experts in the field from both the company and from Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac said that stated income loans were back existing around the '90s, and they performed well for a long period of time. They started to perform badly during the economic crisis in '06, '07 and '08, at which time you will find that Countrywide and Full Spectrum Lending began on a regular basis to tighten up the controls.

A lot of things you will see in the documents focus on tightening the controls, and mainly what they're focusing on is well, if the borrower doesn't state the income, and you cannot ask them to provide documentation for the income, how do you go about checking? And that's where you see in the evidence several things developing, income calculators, systems to test it, looking up something on dot com that will show you what a typical doorman makes, typical anybody makes, and you will see through the documents, many of the documents dealing with that kind of an issue in stated income.

The fact of the matter is stated income is simply a

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loan that is stated income. If you do require the borrower to provide something, it's not a stated income loan. Fannie and Freddie set the market for that product.

Now also of interest in terms of the government's closing today, they still are talking about turn time and other contests and so forth. Let's remember what Mr. Battany testified about. For example, he was asked the following question: In 2007 and '8 time period, as a purchasing agent, would you have approved the purchase of loans that were derived from a loan origination process designed to decrease turn time? This is one of the sins I think that the government keeps talking about, turn time, speed.

His answer is: Yes, I would have approved those loans.

Question: Why would you have approved those loans Mr. Battany?

I would have viewed that to be a positive for the mortgage industry and borrowers to have a more efficient process. And I was personally aware that the mortgage loan process has many days in the timeline where loan files just sit and sometimes take days or weeks.

You see the difference between being on the 14th floor of a New York building and having lived 22 years in the mortgage industry 3,000 miles from here? He's in the real world. Up here we're talking about two different worlds,

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lawyers looking at what happened five or six years ago and second quessing people on the front line.

Mr. Battany is further asked: If a lender was using a loan origination process that gave processors a bonus based upon reduced turn time, would you have continued to purchase the loan?

Answer: Yes.

He goes on. Question: Would Countrywide, setting funding goals for employees -- for its employees have affected your purchasing decisions in 2007, 2008 time period?

Answer: No.

Question: Why not?

Answer: It was typical in the industry.

So we come to court here and we hear about contests and poker and other things as if it's a dirty part of a The fact of the matter is some businesses have those kinds of corporate employee benefits. Mostly fun, certainly. What do we expect? Do we expect -- is there the suggestion that for an Outback \$50 certificate that somebody out there in California five years ago was sending millions of dollars of loans out to borrowers because they were hungry and wanted a certificate? Is the Bloomin' Onion worth that much nowadays? Why? What kind of unrealistic assessment is that? Why is that wrong? Why is that?

You know why? You know why? Because there's no

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evidence of fraud, and you have to reach for things like that in a courtroom. You reach out there and you say to a woman that came here, Ms. Flores, well, what about this horse race, this poker game? She was flabbergasted. You could see it on her face. She said I don't even know how to play poker. was a quote.

You see the difference between living life five and six years later? She thought this was all about her work and her team and her people and doing her job, and she's getting questions about poker this kind of craziness. It happens only when you don't have evidence and when you have a theory and you're searching for evidence. And that's what this case is about, and sometimes you see it in the littlest things like that that says so much about the case. That says no case, that says no fraud.

I didn't finish Mr. Battany's answer I stopped in the middle. He said, answer: It was typical in the industry.

"How do you know that," the question was.

In my 22 years at Fannie Mae, I worked with Answer: probably every major lender in the western United States, and it was very typical behavior for mortgage lenders.

And maybe the best of all: If you knew that persons who were processing these loans and evaluating these loans at Countrywide were loan processors as opposed to underwriters, would that have affected your decision whether or not to

purchase?

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You heard this this morning. Answer: No, it would not affect it.

Question: Why would it not have affected your purchasing decision, Mr. Battany?

Answer: Using processors to operator either CLUES or DU, Desk Underwriter, was common in the industry. Fannie Mae was aware of it, and I recall bringing this to their attention.

I want to talk to you briefly about stated income just because there's been so much discussion of it. It must be remembered that the GSEs and Countrywide testified that the loans were common, that the rules were set by Fannie and Freddie, they were produced to accommodate the borrowers that wanted stated income loans. By the way, borrowers, as you heard from one expert, who wanted stated income loans paid a little more. Remember, there's a higher risk. People that set risk prices associated with a loan, they charge a little more.

So people -- it doesn't matter if you and I were bank presidents, maybe we wouldn't like those loans, but that's how it was done five or six years ago. But it sounds like it's some product we invented. We're just in the marketplace.

By the way, just to give you an idea, here's a question that was asked. Question: Now when underwriting a stated income loan, sir, were underwriters permitted to just ask the borrower or the applicant to provide payment stubs or

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tax returns to verify the income that was stated?

They were not allowed to fully The answer: No. document the income if it was stated.

Ouestion: They were not allowed to ask for W-2s, tax returns?

Answer: That's correct.

That's Mr. Schakett's testimony.

Stated income loans is just another product. The government's theme is that the High-Speed Swim Lane was somehow fraudulent in its creation and its operation. And they used stated income loans, I quess, to say that somehow they didn't belong in High-Speed Swim Lanes. But who permitted the High-Speed Swim Lanes? Mr. O'Donnell did. He said it was OK.

So what conclusions do we draw from this whole stated income issue? Does it show fraud? It simply shows Countrywide handling another product. And by the way, when economic times changed and when these loans started to show up defaulting more than they had over the years, what did they do? They recognized the problem, they discussed the problem to death, they found solutions to the problems as much as they could, changed things, they made changes all hand in hand with the GSEs, Freddie and Fannie Mae participating with them.

And the problem -- eventually they decided not to have stated income loans, but that was Fannie and Freddie's decision. Once they make a decision we're not going to deal

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with that kind of loan, then obviously Countrywide can't produce that kind of loan. So what do we have after four weeks? I said we don't have fraud. So what do we have? does the evidence show? It shows men and women at work. there's this attitude, I guess, by the government that nothing is good about the process or the men and women, I guess, no one I guess did their job.

The government thinks that loan specialists or clerks are not smart enough. They think tracking the numbers of loans They think bonuses for line level employees is bad. They think bonuses for senior people, sprint incentives, are They think rebutting the QC SUS findings is bad. think poker is bad, office contests are bad, leader boards are bad, cards and gambling are bad, Outback Steakhouse gifts, very bad. White on rice bad, but funny. Got to say that once in a while. You have to laugh at some of this stuff. material for Saturday Night Live, but the saddest thing about it is we're in a fraud case and people, at least Rebecca Mairone, and companies, are being charged with fraud by our government.

So what does the real world show? Take all the witnesses and assume good faith on the part of all the witnesses, the government witnesses and so forth. Michael Thomas, the risk analysis. He doesn't provide evidence that there was fraud. And it was four things that we talked about

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Mark Barnett, PhD, designed it. Sidekick, Anson Gong, today. another PhD who worked with him. Lori Peffer who she spent ten years of her life focusing on CLUES. That was her assignment, Anthony Ho, the MIT fellow, comes and identifies the loans looking at the documents, and you find that it's not 28,000, it's 11,000. Mr. Boland, government witness, thought the process was a great design, a great process. Price had little to say, but certainly no evidence of fraud.

And then come people on the front line, like Desirae Flores, Desirae Flores. And remember Desirae, she had the Could we see DX5001 for a second? Could you pull that up possibly, Alex?

She was the woman who came and probably told you that four people -- could you circle the same people she circled? Jeffrey Brown, Michael Money, Susan Lucero, Bernabe Garcia. Those were the former underwriters on her team. To hear the government's opening or even the closing today you wouldn't think there were underwriters out there in the world. are the ones that worked with her, and she was an underwriter.

Andrew Portek came and he told us about the training, how he took the training with his people. Ron Gillet came and talked about the Hustle pilot team that he supervised. And you heard the testimony about Rebecca. You will hear more from her What were they all doing? Working to process loans, counsel. they were attending meetings, they were conferring about the

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process, e-mailing, participating in conference calls. Sounded like a pretty healthy business atmosphere, collegial. And when I mentioned that this morning, since when did collegial -- how

this morning. Collegial I thought was good, people listening

do you attack collegial? That was attacked by the government

to each other, giving opinions, making decisions, not all of them right, and working in their business.

Bottom line is that the government's case hits a brick wall. I call the brick wall reality. And just don't see the world the way it actually was.

You know, to make allegations of fraud or scheme to defraud or misrepresentation violations of law, it seems to me carries with it a responsibility to produce the evidence to prove it. And the record is devoid of cases, is an empty container after four weeks. I don't think a fraud case should be an Easter egg hunt.

MR. CORDARO: Objection, your Honor.

THE COURT: Ground?

MR. CORDARO: It's the "I don't think," your Honor.

THE COURT: Pardon?

MR. CORDARO: It's "I don't think," we're getting

into --

THE COURT: This is not -- this is a rhetorical I don't believe that Mr. Sullivan was holding himself device. as an expert on Easter egg hunts.

DAMTBAN4

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MR. SULLIVAN: That's true, I was trying to make a point that fraud case needs evidence, it's not an Easter egg hunt, it's not going fishing, it's not panning for gold in Utah. You need a lot of proof to charge fraud. You will hear the standard of proof from the Court.

One of the things that, by the way, is significant that I will ask you to -- you will be instructed on the Court about this, too, is the unanimity requirement of the jury. Our juries have to decide things unanimously. When you think about it, there's nowhere else in America, business, the Supreme Court decides things five to four, everything we have grown up with family dinners you decide three want to go for ice cream, two want to go somewhere else. Why do we require everybody to agree on a jury? It's kind of a control point, isn't it? It's because no one wants the wrong decision to be made. We want jurors to consult. We want them to agree. If they can't agree, of course the government can't win.

Here what we have is a case in which when you look at what happened you see the day-to-day work, the insight of men and woman in the mortgage industry. It's not exactly the most exciting thing to see, it's not going to make a TV reality show, sure of that. But the bottom line is that the government's fraud theory in this case is really implausible from the start. Fraud needs real perpetrators. Rebecca Mairone running a fraud? I don't know who else the government

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thinks might be involved in the fraud.

Fraud needs a victim, too. The victims here -intended victims are Fannie and Freddie. But when they come here they don't sound like victims. Instead, the GSE witnesses provide testimony inconsistent with the government theory of fraud favorable to the defendants. Did Rebecca on her own mastermind some fraud with all these other executives above her, below her, beside her? Is that realistic? Is the government really saying that Cliff Kitashima and Greg Lumsden were supposed fraudsters? I don't know.

Among the best indicators of no fraud is Mr. O'Donnell himself. He certainly wants a million six. Why not come to court and testify a little more robustly for a million six? Why not really sound like he lived through a fraud? There's a reason, you know, he can't provide that kind of pop testimony. The reason is twofold. One, there is no fraud, and two, he's fenced in. He's fenced in by his documents, by the way he lived it, by what other people say in the same circumstance. He's fenced in to basically the truth when he wrote that memo and said no fraud, no ethical problems.

That's why you get testimony that is blah, and you sit there and wonder what the heck did they say and how does that fit into allegations of fraud? Reminds me of a great saying by a former President, in a different context, of course, when he said you can't think and run, but they can't hide. He can try

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Summation - Mr. Sullivan

to run from the past, he can try to sound a little bit helpful to the government, but he really can't because there are too many documents and too many things that show the way that men and women lived it out in those days.

You know, it was absolutely fascinating, I never heard it before, but when you folks were worried about you're all assembled in the room and worried about becoming jurors and hoping it wouldn't be the case that I really focused on the words that judge said about the juror's responsibility and how the power to be a juror comes from our Constitution, and talked about the glories of the United States. And one of them he said is that we entrust this awesome power, this power of justice, to you.

It's not often we citizens have any real power. You have the power. You have the power to do justice. You have the power to prevent injustice. Injustice is an awful thing. It burns in the soul of its victims. It never goes away. can only be prevented. It can never be cured. Some diseases can be cured. You can't cure injustice. It cannot be undone. So as citizens on a jury, you have your duties. You will hear them from the Court and you will hear the law. I leave you with the same two words I started with four weeks ago: No fraud. No fraud.

Return a verdict of not liable for the bank defendants and for our employee, Rebecca Mairone. Thank you very much.

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DAMTBAN4
               THE COURT: Thank you very much.
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               All right, ladies and gentlemen, we will take a
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      ten-minute break at this time.
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               (Jury not present)
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               THE COURT: Anything counsel need to raise with the
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      Court?
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               All right. We'll see you in ten minutes.
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               (Recess taken)
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(In open court; jury not present)

MR. HEFTER: Your Honor, I will take a five-minute warning also, if that's okay.

THE COURT: Sure. Do you want a whistle, a siren?

MR. MUKASEY: Just throw something at his head.

(Jury present)

MR. HEFTER: May I proceed, your Honor?

THE COURT: Yes.

MR. HEFTER: Counsel, Rebecca, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon.

Rebecca, prime loans need low touch, low cost processors and prime borrowers need faster turn time to keep them from going elsewhere.

Rebecca, I am okay with the suspension for 90 days of certain elements of QoG.

Rebecca, there are very few loans in my estimation that we would not have or should not have made.

Rebecca, I believe we have the process steps and job aids in place going forward, that when properly executed, will get manufacturing quality to the right level.

Rebecca, I am okay with Fast Track being included in the HSSL since that is exactly the type of product it is designed for.

Rebecca, the QA reviews to date have been heavily focused on process steps. I believe it is tough to draw

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conclusions directly from those or even the QC findings alone.

Who told Rebecca Mairone that? Those are all direct quotes from documents that you have seen out of the mouths and lips of people within FSL. Who are those people? Those people are the management of the credit risk and quality at FSL.

How can the government say that Ms. Mairone, Rebecca, committed fraud, when the top people in the company in charge of controlling risk approved the High-Speed Swim Lane, and Central Fulfillment?

How can they say that Rebecca intended to harm Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac when she spent months trying to put together a quality assurance program?

How can they say she concealed any information regarding quality assurance when she was the person who put together the SWAT team to look into the quality assurance results?

Quality had become a joke? Quality had become a joke? That's what I heard out of the mouths of the government this morning. And it's flatly false.

How can they say that she intended to commit fraud when she implemented, approved, and supported each and every measure to improve quality in late 2007 and early 2008 on her watch?

The government is fond of saying that Rebecca Mairone was the head of Central Fulfillment. She was. We do not

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Summation - Mr. Hefter

dispute that. But if she's going to get blamed for what happened in Central Fulfillment, she better get credit for what happened on her watch. All of the quality improvements that the government has talked about, that the bank's counsel have talked about, took place on her watch.

So the answer to all those questions, how can she be held liable, is she can't be.

There is absolutely no evidence, ladies and gentlemen, that she participated in a scheme to defraud knowingly with a specific intent to defraud at any point.

Judge Rakoff will instruct you as to what those terms He will tell you, and he's going to tell you whatever comes out of his mouth is the law. I hope I'm getting it right. He will tell you that the claim against Ms. Mairone must be decided solely on the evidence that relates to her. And sometimes in this trial, ladies and gentlemen, I thought my only role was to stand up and say "limiting instruction, please."

And it will be very difficult for you to parse all that out. And I'm not going to stand up here today and try to parse it out for you, because there was no fraud.

He will also tell you that to act knowingly means to act consciously and deliberately, rather than mistakenly or inadvertently. But in this context it also means that Ms. Mairone had knowledge that she was participating in a

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fraudulent scheme. To act with a specific intent to defraud requires that Rebecca purposely intended to deceive and harm either Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, or both, by seeking to sell them mortgage loans or by seeking to affect the pricing of those loans through false or misleading representations.

And where is the evidence, ladies and gentlemen, that she personally wanted to deceive and harm Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac? There is none. Where is the evidence that she wanted to sell bad loans to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac? There is none. Where is the evidence that she knew in her mind that the HSSL or Central Fulfillment would lead to the sale of poor quality loans to the GSEs? There is none. Not even the government's star witnesses, Ed O'Donnell and Michael Thomas, testified that she wanted to sell bad loans to Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac. There is not a single witness who testified that Rebecca instructed them to ignore quality. Have you seen a single document where Rebecca says that quality does not matter? It doesn't exist.

Ladies and gentlemen, take a look at her 2007 strategic plan for FSL.

Am I doing this or are you doing this? I am. Next.

This is a PowerPoint presentation. DX 240. Rebecca Mairone is the presenter. 2007 FSL strategic priorities of the priority objectives. So the first page for her priority

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Summation - Mr. Hefter

objectives -- as you might noticed, it is hard for me to read. So what she says is develop and promote a divisional culture in which, quote, doing the right thing is second nature.

Routinely bringing us the highest compliance and quality rating possible.

Those are the words of Rebecca Mairone in a PowerPoint presentation where she sets out her strategic priorities for the company.

After reading that, you cannot conclude that Ms. Mairone did not care about quality. It is exactly opposite of somebody who would want to intend to harm another person.

The government continues to talk about speed. And I believe that the government's counsel this morning said she wanted to pursue profit instead of quality. Where is the evidence of that? What witness testified to that? Not even the government's witness testified to that. Where is there a document that says that?

In any event, her intent was to streamline the process for prime borrowers so that their files would not get stuck behind more complex files. She believed that the High-Speed Swim Lane was designed to reduce turn time by minimizing hand offs and reducing unnecessary steps in the process from the subprime model.

There is nothing fraudulent about wanting to make a more efficient process. Increasing efficiency in the process

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by reducing turn time does not mean that she personally wanted and desired the process to generate defective loans. And there

is no evidence that she did. It is not fraudulent to send around a production goal. Businesses do that all the time. Ιn fact, it is pretty standard.

Everybody knows that a Girl Scout wants to sell more cookies in one year than the year before. It is pretty standard that businesses try to figure out how much they're going to sell in the next month, quarter or week or a day. There is nothing fraudulent about that. There is no evidence that she intended to harm anyone.

So why is Ms. Mairone sitting here in this courtroom in the first place? I think you know the answer. Years ago, Mr. O'Donnell, the government's chief witness, had it out for Ms. Mairone, and now he's playing it out here. The evidence before you, however, shows that his testimony in this case does not fit with his own words and conduct six years before. Mr. O'Donnell came into this courtroom as a man with a grudge and a mission.

Consider the following: You already heard about the \$1.6 million. I won't dwell on that. He works at Fannie Mae, you know that. But also, right from the words of his mouth, he says:

"Q. And you faulted her for minimizing the roles of those individuals?

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"A. For my role specifically, yes."

Clear as day. He also put his name in to run Central Fulfillment. He wanted that job. He didn't get that job. believes he didn't get the job because of Ms. Mairone. He blames Ms. Mairone for that.

So this is Mr. O'Donnell in April of 2008. Where Mr. Thomas in his e-mail says "It gave me comfort just to know I got under her skin just a little bit." Then Mr. O'Donnell says, I know the feeling. She's got rubber bullets in her gun and we are going nuclear."

"We are going nuclear." That's pretty clear as to what that means.

Then let's look at this e-mail from Mr. Comeaux to her in June. Where he says to Ms. Mairone, to Rebecca, you do not have a true understanding how he feels about you or what he has said about you.

Mr. O'Donnell has a grudge and he came into this court with a mission. His entire testimony is tainted by that bias, ladies and gentlemen.

Now the government says in attacking Ms. Mairone's credibility, look at what she testified at her deposition compared to look what she testified in court. They point to a few instances where she couldn't recollect something at her deposition, but now she recollects it on the stand.

The reason for that, ladies and gentlemen, is that she

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has sat here, day in, day out, every single day of this trial, she spent numerous hours with us preparing for this trial in the period between the deposition and now. Now you know why she's able to testify about certain things that she may not have had a recollection at her deposition.

Did Rebecca Mairone ignore concerns that were raised about the High-Speed Swim Lane? No. This is a really key point, because this morning, government counsel threw out all these names about how they were raising concerns. This is an area where I do want to focus on what they said and what the evidence was.

There is only a single person in the entire record who had direct contact with Ms. Mairone about the High-Speed Swim Lane. Mr. Price could have raised concerns, other people could have raised concerns, Mr. Aliano, Mr. Brent, Mr. Thomas. only person who had direct contact with Ms. Mairone in the record, the evidence, is Mr. O'Donnell.

Mr. O'Donnell's testimony is that he expressed his concern at steering committee meetings. He doesn't identify the date of those meetings, he doesn't identify who was there, we're left to assume that Rebecca was at every single one of those meetings. So let's just say she was. Let's say she was at all of those meetings. It still doesn't prove what the government wants you to think. The government wants you to believe she ignored concerns raised by Mr. O'Donnell.

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Let's look at what he said at the time in his own words as to whether it's believable that he actually expressed concerns to her.

August 13, the day that the High-Speed Swim Lane Hustle began. Mr. O'Donnell to Mr. Cannon and others, Mr. Kitashima, Thomas, Price. Couple of notes below. Any new process should not require underwriting involvement. We should be thinking of leveraging underwriting only on critical risk related items.

Is it believable that he was raising those concerns in a steering committee meeting in or around that time if he didn't think that underwriters should have that involvement?

August 13, same day. We discussed this topic with Cliff -- that's Mr. Kitashima -- on Thursday night. We're going to move forward with allowing the loan specialists to determine reasonability.

That's income reasonability on the stated income loan. We know that.

Is it actually believable, is his testimony in this court believable? Let's see what he said.

Number one, I was concerned that loan specialists wouldn't be up to the task. How does that square with his statements in the documents at the time? It doesn't, ladies and gentlemen.

The government showed him also PX 52. Or showed us PX

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52. This is the e-mail on 8/3 where Rebecca says to Ed so it sounds like it may work. Is that what I am hearing? Question mark.

You recall, ladies and gentlemen, that Mr. O'Donnell had assembled a bunch of questions from people out in the field in the national sales center. He was summarizing those comments and he was forwarding them to Rebecca. And his testimony about this, when he was asked the question, so it sounds like it may work, was "I was confused by that answer." That was his testimony. "I was confused by the answer." Is that fraud when she asked the question It sounds like it may work. Is that what I am hearing? Is that fraud? And also there is a question mark there. What was he confused about? He had already responded to all these people that he did not believe that quality was an issue with the High-Speed Swim This is on August 3.

On August 1st, he responds to an e-mail to James White and he says: Very important to make it clear that we are talking about prime loans. We don't have quality issues on prime due to the strength of the borrower. They are the quality part of the deal. The focus is on moving the deals quickly and eliminating hand offs, returns or unnecessary requirements that delay signings.

So is it believable that he was confused about Ms. Mairone's response on August 3 when two days before he was

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he's telling James White, a member of his organization, don't worry about it? We've got this covered? The prime borrower is the quality part of the deal. It's not believable.

Also, if he was confused about Ms. Mairone's question, if he thought she wasn't understanding, which I think was his testimony in this courthouse, did he call her? Or send an e-mail? Asking her what she meant? No. There is no evidence of that. None. Why? There was no reason to. He had already told his people that they should not have any concerns.

You heard government counsel make a big deal of PX 52 and Ms. Mairone's question. That's what the government says is fraud or part of their fraud case. They completely ignore the next page of the document. Well, I don't think we have it up there. But I'll tell you what it says. In the same document, after she says I think it may work. She also asks Cliff, she sends Cliff a question. Cliff, what do you think?

So this is part of the collaborative process. Ms. Mairone, Rebecca, talking to Cliff and Ed about any issue relating to the rollout of the High-Speed Swim Lane.

You also heard talk about Michael Thomas' concern about the High-Speed Swim Lane. He's an interesting witness because, as you've heard, he works at Fannie Mae, he got his job through Ed O'Donnell. There is absolutely no evidence that he raised any concerns about the High-Speed Swim Lane to Rebecca at any time. Nothing.

The government believes that Mr. Thomas' August 8 e-mail is a smoking gun. They want you to believe that Mr. Thomas' concerns were ignored by Rebecca. That's interesting, because there is absolutely no evidence that she received an e-mail. There is no evidence that he sent it to Greg Lumsden, Cliff Kitashima, Rebecca, or Ed O'Donnell. Ed received it from somebody else.

Also, remember Mr. Thomas' testimony. When you look at his testimony, he doesn't know who was making decisions, who were in any of the meetings, and he wasn't there.

So five days after Mr. Thomas' e-mail lands in Mr. O'Donnell's e-mail box, Mr. O'Donnell is sending this e-mail to Rebecca and others. "I'd recommend that we continue to exclude purchases, loans greater than 1 million, and non-arm's length. I agree with the remainder of the list." He's telling everybody let's move forward as long as we have certain loans excluded. Mr. O'Donnell's suggestion was followed. Those type of loans were excluded from the High-Speed Swim Lane pilot.

So, for the government to say Mr. Thomas' August 8th e-mail is relevant, it's not, because Mr. O'Donnell is telling Rebecca multiple days later let's go forward. And we know there is no evidence that Mr. O'Donnell didn't want to go forward. The government claims that he gave conditional approval. Show me a document where he says that. There is

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none back then.

Also, the government showed you this morning an e-mail from Mr. Barnett. I think this is very important because it goes to what loans were going into the High-Speed Swim Lane. Okay. This is what they showed you this morning. This is Mr. Barnett to a group of people. I apologize I don't have it on the screen. He says as of September 12, the HSSL teams will get all loans regardless of criteria.

That's what was showed to you this morning. Okay. Mr. Aliano, one of the risk guys, responds. "All loans regardless of criteria are going to the High-Speed Swim Lane" question mark, question mark, question mark, question mark. That's a risk issue. Mr. Aliano is doing his job. Then, the part that the government doesn't show you, after Mr. Aliano raises that question, "Patrick," this is Mr. Barnett. "I probably should not have been so brief. It would be inaccurate to say all loans will follow the same process as the current PCAs and CLTV less than 80 percent." That's what he says.

He made a mistake. That's not fraud. For the government not to show you that and only the previous ones is a gimmick. Like most of their arguments is a gimmick. Like the argument that they wanted two days to go from PCO to PC2. That's a gimmick. That's not the time you get an application to funding. It has to go through PCO, PC1, PC2, PC3, PC4, and then funding.

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Mr. Gillet's e-mail where they're talking about going from appraisal to CTC. That's not a measure of going from PCO That doesn't measure turn time. Turn time is app to funding. Appraisal to CTC is within that work flow.

So for somebody to be saying we got to shorten that time doesn't mean they were looking to shorten everything else. It's misleading. So, let's keep this -- I'm sorry. Let's keep this e-mail up here for a second.

Mr. O'Donnell is making a recommendation to the entire group as the head of underwriting. He is a subject matter A senior one. There were others, Brent, Aliano, Jaraba. These were the people within the company whose job it was to check and monitor quality. Of course, it was Rebecca's job to focus on quality as well. But there was a separate organization that was specifically there to focus on quality. None of those individuals objected to the rollout of the High-Speed Swim Lane pilot or Central Fulfillment.

As for Ms. Mairone, she checked with them every step of the way. And why would you consult with the risk guys if you wanted to commit a fraud? Doesn't make sense. Why would she have all these conversations, all these e-mails? Doesn't make sense. Doesn't add up. Why is she saying in this e-mail, you know the e-mail where Cliff and Ed's comments are in blue. You know that e-mail. That's an e-mail when Rebecca is seeking Ed and Cliff's input on all of the issues regarding the design

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Summation - Mr. Hefter

of the High-Speed Swim Lane. What do they say? In blue. " I am okay with the suspension for 90 days for certain elements of the QoG. We should keep those tied to key areas such as responsible lending, fraud, affordability and collateral." Well, that's what happened. No one took out the fraud program. That was still there.

Flash forward a month. This is Mr. Aliano on August 31. Rebecca's on it. Aliano's one of the risk guys. It is another instance of collaboration, of talking about the various risks that could come up. He says "I'm okay with Fast Track being included into HSSL since that's exactly the type of product it's designed for." Then it says "Fast and Easy appraisal waivers equals fast close."

We've heard a little bit about Fast and Easy. Mr. Aliano, the risk guy, is saying he's okay with Fast Track going into the High-Speed Swim Lane.

That type of discussion and debate as to what should be in, what should be out, what's the appropriate turn time, is it 15 days or 24 days, is the normal nature of business and discussion. It is inconsistent with anybody committing or trying to commit a fraud.

The government argued this morning that there were bad QA results from the pilot. They argue that, or they want you to think that Rebecca and others should have stopped the pilot at that point in time. The government wants you to believe

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that Ms. Mairone was advised that the rollout into Central Fulfillment was ill-advised. That's just false. Let's look at that.

All right. So this is on September 21. September 21. This is a week and a half before the rollout of Central Fulfillment on October 1st. This is from Loren Rodriguez to a group of people, a large group of people, including Rebecca, Cliff, Ed, Cheri Shine. "As you know, we have a session with Greg on Tuesday to review Central Fulfillment. There is also a prep session with Rebecca, Cliff, Cheri, and Ed midday Monday to review where we are."

All of them discussed it. Why would you be having all these meetings out in the open with 15, 20 people if you were trying to commit a fraud? No one was behind closed doors and back rooms trying to sell bad loans here. This was all out in the open. Out in the sunshine. Or if you were Rebecca, working at 1 o'clock in the morning, the middle of the night, worried about quality.

And nobody, there is not a single piece of evidence in this case, testimony or e-mail, in which she was advised that the rollout would lead to the sale of riskier loans to the GSEs. That she was advised. What was going through her mind. That is the only thing that matters with respect to Rebecca. No one knows what's going through her mind. We don't have a magic machine that can do that. We're not psychics.

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can look at all this evidence and say there is no way that she had an intent to defraud and harm Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac based on all this evidence.

Let's look at Mr. O'Donnell. November 13, 2007, Central Fulfillment is six weeks old at this point in time. And he does a presentation with Rebecca and Wade Comeaux about the new fulfillment model. If you objected so much, if you found it was so offensive that you gave your conditional approval to the pilot, why put your name on a presentation? You don't like it? You don't put your name on it. But he did. It shows you at the time he was in favor of it.

Right then and there, in Mr. O'Donnell's and Ms. Mairone's presentation, key target goals in today's challenging environment. Yes. Increased philosophy target 24 days turn time. App to fund. 24 days. They intended to rush Improve efficiency. the process?

This is a good one. You probably can't read it. can't read it either, but it's something like 55 to 65 percent fund re. What does that mean? That's the app to fund re. That means they didn't intend to fund 100 percent of the applications they got. They just wanted to get to 50 to 60 percent.

If you were trying to sell bad loans to GSEs, if you were trying to commit a fraud, why not sell 100 percent of the applications? Don't do anything. There is no fraud.

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Maintain quality. It is a balance, ladies and gentlemen. That's what the mortgage business is. It is a balance, and they were all focused on it, and Rebecca was focused on it, importantly.

What about the QA results from the pilot. Okay, those weren't that good. We heard about this sort of debate. About whether QA means QC, QC means SUS. QA means SUS. It is all confusing.

But all the witnesses, including Mr. O'Donnell at the time, believed the QA process, the prefunding QA process measured process steps. So let's look at this. This is the PC3 review.

In virtually all of these findings, meant that there was not a piece of paper in the virtual loan file. It didn't mean it didn't exist. It is a double negative, I think. didn't mean -- it didn't mean that they did not have an appraisal. Someone put it in the wrong file. That's what those find. Ms. Mairone testified she was concerned about one of the aspects of it. 14 findings related to appraisal review does not support value. She testified about that. what she was concerned about. 1.76.

We know that Michael Burns, who reports to Michael Thomas, said in March that the leading cause of the findings was document not in VLF. Document in wrong location. Document in correct location, but the auditor made an error. Document

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not in VLF. We don't need to debate this here. But what we do need to think about is that in her mind, as she was thinking about rolling out the High-Speed Swim Lane, when she was thinking about Central Fulfillment, in her mind, she believed these results measured process. And she was proven right when Michael Burns said, months later, that they did measure process and these things did not relate to items that could lead to a SUS.

What does Mr. O'Donnell say? I've already said that so I am going to gloss over this. But he does say at the time in March of 2008 the QA reviews have been heavily focused on process steps. That's Mr. O'Donnell saying it. Everybody agreed with him.

So now he stands in court and states under oath that the QA results measured investment quality. No one at the time believed that to be the case. And in fact, no one, Mr. O'Donnell, not Mr. Thomas, not Mr. Boland, not Mr. Price, stood up and said we should stop the rollout of the High-Speed Swim Lane into Central Fulfillment. No one. That was after the initial High-Speed Swim Lane results came out.

Now, the government seizes on a single e-mail. single e-mail that Ms. Mairone sent out in November 29. It is the crux of their case. Ah-ha. It is a theory in search of evidence and we've combed the file and we found the hot document. The November 29 e-mail.

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I want to talk about that. Because the notion that Ms. Mairone hid anything, concealed anything, attempted to commit a fraud, was part of the fraud as a result of the November 29 e-mail is false. We've proved it to be false. did not intend that e-mail to be part of a fraud, to conceal anything, to make sure that QA reports weren't being studied, to lock the QA reports in her drawer so they would never be seen by anybody. It's just false. We know that. All right.

So, I have a timeline here. I'm not going to go through every single piece of the timeline, but it shows specifically the reasons for the November 29 e-mail. met with Greg Lumsden and Cliff Kitashima, and they determined that she would be tasked with sending out the e-mail because the QA reports had become a distraction at the line level and they were confusing. And Scott Bridges, the head of sales, says that people are getting bombarded. We need to fix it. That's 11/16.

11/28 meeting with Lumsden, Kitashima and Mairone. Mairone's e-mail.

On December 4, however, weekly QA/QC meetings are established. Reports to be published in advance.

We know, ladies and gentlemen, that the reports were sent out, they were sent to Mr. Kitashima, they were sent outside of Central Fulfillment. They were sent to everybody who were in the credit quality and risk. They were studying it

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at the time. And Rebecca was taking a leading role. She said

I want a SWAT team. I want to figure out what the SUSs are.

We must do everything on income reasonability. I am going to

show you that here. That is not consistent with somebody who

5 was trying to commit a fraud. Somebody who was trying to or

intending to harm or deceive anybody. That's consistent with

legitimate behavior of a businessperson who tried to get to the

bottom of an issue.

What does Mr. O'Donnell say about it? Can we pull it This is on December 4. He's sending this to Mr. Jaraba, Brent, and the risk guys. He's saying QA risk management and compliance related issues findings will be communicated only at the MD level for Central Fulfillment to avoid any distractions to line employees or line management.

Everybody believed the employees were distracted at They were trying to figure out how best to communicate with them. So let's keep on going.

At her direction, at Rebecca's direction on the 7th, QA daily reports are sent out and consolidated in manageable format. Consolidated QA reports are sent to her, and other members of risk/compliance. These reports weren't put in a These reports weren't hidden from people. They were studied.

Keep on going. Rebecca requests that she wants the four key findings. She didn't care about quality? Why is she

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asking Mr. Brent to go out and get the four key findings. ladies and gentlemen, you have all these documents. Or you will have them.

She has a meeting on the 11th with Cliff and Ed, Javier and Steve. What is the purpose of that meeting? You're trying to commit a fraud by hiding the QA results, why do you have a meeting with the key risk people? They're trying to do the right thing.

This is a key one. Can I have that. On the 11th, Rebecca asks for a report that details the five top six-ish SUS findings that can be aligned with the findings from the QA reviews. She's asking for that. What she's saying is okay, we have all these QA results, which are the important ones that might lead to a bad loan. Some are noise, some are not. I want to find out. That's what she's saying.

She says put together a newsletter-ish document Myth Busters that would address process and procedures perspective. Rebecca and Cliff agreed to have a SWAT team put together with representatives of tech, process engineering, FSL, risk management, compliance, QAC, FSL, training, etc. to address the top six issues relating to credit quality.

Who does that if you want to commit a fraud? Who does that if you want to intend to deceive and harm somebody? You They were trying to get to the bottom of what all these don't. results meant in a very turbulent time. Very turbulent time.

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The government points out to you this morning that in connection with an e-mail that Steve Brent sent to Wade, Rebecca says let's discuss offline. And they say when someone says let's discuss offline in an e-mail, they draw the conclusion, the government draws the conclusion that it was intended to jeopardize quality? How many people say let's discuss this offline. I don't know how they can draw that inference. It is impossible to draw that inference from that, let's discuss offline.

Then, she sends a recap of the meeting to Comeaux, Price, White, and Massie. For our QA meeting tomorrow. Another meeting to discuss QA. Out in the open. Rebecca tells them to develop short and longer term solutions for key QA findings. Why is she doing that? Because she cares about quality.

On the 17th, weekly corporate QC findings are sent to over 40 people. Was there ever an intent to hide those reports?

The documents speak for themselves, ladies and The government's assertions here do not fit the gentlemen. evidence.

Then, she tells all of her people we must document (answer the six questions) for all stated loans. She's directing her team we must document for all stated loans. this point Price, Sallis, and White are reporting up through

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She's telling them in Central Fulfillment, they must tell their teams to document all stated loans. That was going through her mind. Not anybody else's mind. Not Jim White or Ron Gillet down in Richardson, Texas or anybody in Chandler. Talking about poker tournaments or anything like that.

Which all related to, by the way, the poker tournaments all related to the sprint incentive, and there is no evidence in the record that Rebecca had anything to do with the sprint incentive. They don't tell you that.

Then she says on the same day, in another e-mail, "Our job is to document correctly. That is what the investors are looking for."

If you don't care about the investors or Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac for the most part, at this point in time why would you say we need to document, that's what our investors are looking for. Think about it. What's going through her mind?

I forgot to mention, one of these documents, it's around 1 o'clock in the morning. 1 o'clock in the morning she's sending an e-mail, one of these e-mails out in the dead of night. Caring about quality.

Quality had become a joke? That's what I heard the government say?

This entire timeline of QA summit in Richardson, The government criticizes her because she wasn't there. Texas.

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Well, we know the truth. It was her daughter's birthday. That's not fraud. This negates fraud and any inference of it.

Let's take a look at PX 120 if I can quickly get that. The government showed you this document. I don't have it on the screen. This is from Wade to Rebecca: FYI, LSs have been receiving no OoG feedback for months. We also have no organized detail on SUS findings per LS or OM.

They showed that to you. What they don't show you is Wade saying: Rebecca, we are now, after months of pushing for it, receiving OA data on LS level.

After months of pushing for it. We. After months of pushing for it. They didn't show you that part of the document.

Now, we also heard about controls in the system. was incredibly important to Rebecca. You have seen this before. And with due apologies to Mr. Sullivan, we had some interaction here, so I just had to use it. All these people who now are part of the Central Fulfillment management team came out of Ed O'Donnell's organization. Look at what they are. They're majority -- I was about to say all, but that would be wrong. Majority of them are underwriters prior to Central Fulfillment, especially White, Sallis, and Price. senior guys.

So when they built the system, think about what's going through her mind. When they built the system, they took

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the underwriters who reported up through Mr. O'Donnell, and they put them in charge of the whole organization. How is that increasing risk? That was responsible.

And you notice something, which is an important point. None of these people reported to Lloyd Sergeant. He was the sales quy. He was the real sales quy and he continued to manage the sales organization. Production is not sales. It's different.

Now, I had to bring this out. I urge you when you are in the jury room to study this chart and the rhombuses and the triangles and the like. Because if you look at the specific steps that every single loan had to go through and how they built this, you cannot draw any inference that anybody wanted to deceive or harm anybody. By building it this way, negates an inference of Rebecca's intent.

You also saw this. August 27, deployment risk and mitigation steps. Why would you need mitigation steps if you were attempting to commit a fraud and you didn't care about quality? That's what they were thinking about.

We've seen the training matrix. You've seen the CF authority matrix. All of these things were built to control for the inherent risk of running a mortgage business. inherent risk of running a mortgage business. And as the head of Central Fulfillment, she was involved in all of these steps to control that risk. Who would perpetrate a fraud this way?

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So what happened when the market dramatically changed in 2007? How did FSL respond? They responded in many ways. And there are many PowerPoint presentations that you will have at your disposal that show it. Again, ask yourself, why would you put all these things in PowerPoint presentations of all the things you are doing to correct things that were challenging your quality if you were trying to hide something. You wouldn't.

And this time, Mr. Sullivan actually had a better chart because he had it all organized. But as the head of Central Fulfillment, Ms. Mairone was involved in everything relating to the remedial measures that were put in place at CF.

Before I close, your Honor, and ladies and gentlemen, I do want to hit just very quickly, two things. One is, the concept that Rebecca's involvement with NCA had anything to do with the High-Speed Swim Lane. The government points to one document where somebody in one of the NCA processing centers did something wrong. If you study the dates and you study Rebecca's testimony, she had nothing to do with NCA at the So for the government to pick out one document where one person who ultimately was disciplined and then to draw this broad conclusion that everybody involved with NCA over all of time somehow is tainted with that is unfair.

I would also say, the second point is, this whole notion about slide removal. The evidence is clear that

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whatever Mr. O'Donnell is making up about Ms. Mairone instructing him to remove slides is false. Because we showed him the final -- here we go. This is the document the government used with him. It's not. Is this the final? Thank you.

This is the final version that was provided to Drew Gissinger. Mr. Kitashima confirmed it. This was the final version. It is not the one that Mr. O'Donnell believes was provided to Mr. Gissinger on that date. And you can see on page five, quality control update was provided. Page six, quality control update. Page seven. FSLD quality assurance on page 17.

There was never, ever, any instruction by Rebecca to remove slides. It is made up.

Now I noticed that I don't have the five-minute warning yet, but I'm going to start with my finale.

THE COURT: Well, you beat me to the punch.

MR. HEFTER: Thank you, your Honor.

Ladies and gentlemen, my time is up now. When you go back to deliberate, did you hear any evidence that Rebecca wanted to hurt or harm Fannie or Freddie? You can tell by her testimony that she is a determined and she was a focused executive. You saw that when she wanted compliance and loan quality to be a foundation at FSL.

Now we are far away from Pasadena, California in this

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courtroom. You've not seen a single document or heard from a witness saying that Rebecca was trying to trick anyone or hide The intent to defraud, the bad intent, is just not anything. There is nothing, no piece of evidence from which you can draw any conclusion that in her mind she thought that she was acting to harm or deceive Fannie or Freddie.

The case is brought in the name of the United States of America. And these lawyers work at the Justice Department. And in the Justice Department, there are the words in the rotunda "The United States wins its case whenever justice is done one of its citizens in the courts."

Ladies and gentlemen, if you do justice and return a defense verdict for Rebecca, the United States will win. will win because she will be free, one of its citizens will be freed from these unjust and unfair charges. And ladies and gentlemen, the laws of this country give you that power. that power to free Rebecca of these charges. Hold the government's feet to the fire. Ask them why their witnesses had no specifics. Ask yourselves why did those witnesses say one thing then and another thing now. Ask them why not a single witness could testify that Rebecca acted improperly.

Remember her words and conduct now. She was there in good faith for productivity, client satisfaction, and quality. We are the last voice you'll hear for Rebecca before you deliberate. We have no rebuttal. The government does. When

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you hear their rebuttal, just ask yourself what would I say in response to their rebuttal.

Rebecca, it's been has been honor to represent you.

Six years ago she tried as hard as she could in perfectly good faith to fix whatever problems that her colleagues and bosses threw at her. She didn't do anything to defraud. Now she finds herself in this terrible spot. Only you can free her from it.

I ask you, ladies and gentlemen, please do so in the name of fairness and justice and return a verdict of not liable for Ms. Mairone. I thank you.

THE COURT: Thank you very much. We will take another 10 minute break.

(Jury excused)

THE COURT: I noticed that with his usual sense of perfect timing, the U.S. attorney entered the courtroom just as we were taking a break.

Anyway, anything counsel needs to raise with the Court? We'll see you in 10 minutes.

(Recess)

(Continued on next page)

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(Jury present)

THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, the government, because it has the burden of proof, is given a brief 20-minute rebuttal.

Counsel.

MR. CORDARO: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. know you have been sitting here a long time today and I want to thank you for your attention today and throughout this trial. You have put your lives on hold for quite some time and we are all grateful.

Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, let's get back to what this case is really all about. This case is about lies. This case is about deception. This case is about the Hustle. This case is about lies that Countrywide told Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac about the quality of their loans. You saw the misrepresentations. You saw the promises and the contracts. Those lies are fraud. That's the kernel of the case here.

The evidence is overwhelming that the defendants put into place a loan origination process that was designed to push loans through at high speed. Their own documents use those terms, straight through at high speed. The evidence is overwhelming, they knew that the loans that were going through that process were poor quality loans. And the evidence is overwhelming that, despite that knowledge, they sold those loans to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac with lies that the loans

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were investment quality. That is fraud.

Mr. Sullivan made an allusion to Alice in Wonderland, suggesting that the government is not dealing in reality here. Well, in the real world, fraud is illegal. Let me tell you what is happening in the real world here. The High-Speed Swim Lane, emphasis on speed and volume, removal of quality checkpoint, removal of underwriters, faster turn times, turn time bonuses, funding quota, funding bonuses, terrible QA reports, terrible QC reports, suspension of quality and grade, sprint incentive, poker run, horse racing, that's all reality. That's not fantasy. It's in the evidence. And one more reality, the lies that the defendants told Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac about the quality of those loans. That is the brick wall that Mr. Sullivan was referring to. But it's not government's case that hits that brick wall, it's the defendant's.

Ladies and gentlemen, counsel for the defense talked about men and women working hard. The government does not dispute that. We're not disputing that Desirae Flores and people like her worked hard. But that's a distraction. It's a distraction designed to deflect your attention from the evidence. It's a distraction designed to deflect your attention from the people who participated in this fraud, people like Ms. Mairone and Mr. Lumsden and Mr. Kitashima who knew about the fraud and acted with intent and pushed forward

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People like Ms. Flores, they were pawns in the They were part of a culture that pushed funding, process. funding, funding.

We're not saying that Desirae Flores committed fraud, but the bank did. We're not saying that Desirae Flores or people like her or people who were eating Bloomin' Onions in Outback knew about the misrepresentations that the defendants were making to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. But Rebecca Mairone did. That's the fraud.

You heard a lot of discussion about loan specialists and their qualifications. And we heard a lot of talk about how loan specialists were former underwriters. So I put a question to you, if it's so great that some loan specialists were former underwriters, why remove them from the process in the first place? Why kick them out of the process for CLUES accept loans? Underwriters are the quardians of quality. Apparently their presence was not wanted in the High-Speed Swim Lane for CLUES accept loans.

And if the loan specialists were so qualified, why did Ms. Mairone have to suspend the Quality of Grade? Why did she have to extend that reprieve for six months? If they were so qualified, why did some of them have to grandfathered into their level one authority, as Mr. Thomas discussed? If they were so qualified, why did the high risk QA findings on Hustle loans reach 98 percent? If they were so qualified, why

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decrease the number of file reviews they had to go through to get their level two authority? And finally, if the loans specialists were so qualified, why, at the end of the process, when the quality had gone down the drain and Drew Gissinger exploded, did they bring back the underwriters? They want to take credit for that. But they don't get a free pass for the nine months that they had been selling loans to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac with lies about their quality. That is fraud.

We've head heard quite a bit about QA. Mr. Hefter in his closing statement himself admitted: Wasn't that good. They know it's not that good. In fact, it's worse than not that good, it's terrible. So what do they do? They concoct this story that quality assurance is not about quality. It has nothing to do with quality, it's process.

And you saw what happened when Mr. Sullivan tried to construct an analogy for you with the table and the projector, he fell all over it because the analogy made no sense. He said something about soldering a table. That sure sounds like it goes to quality to me, because I want my table to be soldered right. He started talking about cars at GM. If my car manufacturer was pushing through cars and removing quality checkpoints, that sounds a little more than process, I think that would get to the quality. And if they were doing quality assurance tests on those cars and they were finding 98 percent severe findings, that sounds a little bit more like quality

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than process to me.

Those chairs you're sitting in were constructed by somebody. The process to manufacture those chairs has nothing to do with quality? It's easy for a lawyer standing in the well, tell that to the person sitting in the chair. Oh, and by the way, what happens if you sell that chair to the person with the representation that the chair is quality and yet you know from your own internal documents that the chairs coming out of that process are garbage? That's a fraud. That's a lie.

There's been much talk about the OC results. And what has to be understood about them is that they're unreliable. That document that you keep seeing, Defendant's Exhibit 73, the one that they keep waving like a magic wand hoping that it will make all the other evidence disappear, well, that's after the poker run, after all the incentives, after the focus on the rebuttal of SUSs. But it's interesting that the number for the first quarter 2008 is still 9.8 percent. Sounds like they want to take credit for that.

Do you remember what Michael Thomas said? Cliff Kitashima told him the internal standard at Countrywide was four percent. Four. This is the final QC number that the defendants are trumping, 9.8 percent. It's more than twice as much. And these are loans that are being sold to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac with lies.

Who knew about these lies? We heard both in the

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opening statement and again today that this process wasn't taking place behind closed doors, it was out in the open, out in the sunshine. Really? Did one witness from Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac tell you that this process was out in the sunshine to them? Did anybody tell them about this process? And more to that, the very first witness for the defense, the COO of CFC, Jack Schakett, testified that he didn't know about it. So how could you believe them when they tell you this process was out in the sunshine?

You heard a lot today about what's a Hustle loan and what isn't. We say there are over 28,000 Hustle loans. defendants disagree. They say it's less. They wave Michael Thomas' fax at you as if it was some ah-hah document. It's not. The government relied on the bank's own data for its definition. And by the way, that data says that a loan specialist cleared to close the Florida doorman loan, and we have heard a lot in this trial about the role of loan specialists in the High-Speed Swim Lane.

But be that as it may, the fraud here is the lie. fraud has to do with the quality of the loans. Even the defense's own expert, Mr. Broeksmit, didn't look at the loans for quality. He wasn't assigned to look at the loan files for quality. He pulled a sprint incentive on them. And why? Well, I quess that's a question for the defendants, but the bottom line is: Why does anybody bury their head in the sand?

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Maybe because they're afraid of what they're going to see.

Now I would like to talk briefly about Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. Even Mr. Battany, called by the defense, testified that if he were aware of anything, anything about the loan to process that negatively affected quality, that would have factored into his pricing decision. That would have factored into his purchase decision. Quality. You have seen the evidence on the High-Speed Swim Lane. You have seen the QA and QC reports. Ladies and gentlemen, it's up to you to decide if poor quality loans came out of the High-Speed Swim Lane. We're very confident in what the evidence shows. never knew anything about it at the time because no one told him.

So the defendants try to take refuge in these other numbers that Fannie and Freddie allegedly claim are industry Those weren't SUS numbers. Those weren't investment quality representations. Remember what the fraud is. It doesn't matter what Fannie and Freddie knew about other loans from other lenders and other numbers. This case is about what the defendants were doing, and what they were doing was selling poor quality loans from the Hustle with the lie that they were investment quality, and they knew it, and that's fraud.

With respect to Rebecca Mairone, I'm not going to repeat everything that was said by my colleague, Ms. Nawaday, fraud.

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this morning. I do not have the time. The bottom line is her counsel would have you believe she was essentially an innocent bystander in all this. That is ridiculous. Maybe Ms. Mairone didn't write an email that says: Hey, everyone, let's commit a

But that's not what the government needs to prove its She knew about this scheme. She participated in it. case. She encouraged it. She was the chief operating officer of the division that spawned it. She was on the steering committee. She led the kick off meetings and told loan specialists not to worry about the QoG hits they might get for quality mistakes, and she extended the reprieve. She pushed the funding goals. She ordered the QA communications be directed to her. She said employees would get no QA feedback until further notice, dispensed with checklists, and she was the one who had the approval over the funding contests. Bottom line is she and Mr. Lumsden and Mr. Kitashima had the intent, they knew about the scheme, and they didn't stop it, and they didn't tell anyone. And all the while on her watch, loan after loan after loan after loan being sold to the GSEs, those same misrepresentations, and they made money off of it, about \$165 million worth.

Finally, we get to Ed O'Donnell. He was attacked by counsel today because he's the whistleblower. They want you to be upset because he may receive money if the United States

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prevails in this lawsuit. Ladies and gentlemen, I agree you should be upset. You should be upset. But not for the reason my adversary gave you. You should be upset that it took Ed O'Donnell's blowing of the whistle to bring this brazen fraud to light. It took Ed O'Donnell to bring this fraud to public attention, to public scrutiny in this courtroom, a fraud that Fannie and Freddie didn't know about, and a fraud that CFC's own COO didn't know about. You should be upset by the secrecy that ensured that no one knew about it.

To the extent the defense is inviting you to become resentful toward Mr. O'Donnell because he may realize some money from this lawsuit, I ask you to decline this invitation. This is a court of law, and it's the law that provides for the possibility that Mr. O'Donnell might be compensated.

Mr. Sullivan called his credibility into attack, as did Mr. Hefter. Ladies and gentlemen, credibility determination is yours. You saw all the witnesses at the trial. You saw who was on the level and who was evasive. You saw who answered the questions straightforwardly and who gave carefully rehearsed speeches that went way beyond the question. And you saw Ed O'Donnell. Did the defendants muster one single lie that he told? And let's not forget about Michael Thomas who also came forward and testified at this trial. Ladies and gentlemen, you saw the witnesses, and we'll leave it to you to decide who was telling the truth and who wasn't.

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THE COURT: Counsel, you have about two minutes.

MR. CORDARO: Thank you.

One last thing, the Wade Comeaux email to Ms. Mairone about Mr. O'Donnell, Ms. Mairone's direct report during a time of uncertainty with respect to the Bank of America merger. And even if you take those comments at face value, it says nothing different from what Mr. O'Donnell was telling you, that Ms. Mairone's leadership was under severe question, and worse than that, Ms. Mairone was a participant in a fraud.

Members of the jury, I am almost finished. Once I sit down, the Court is going to give you final instructions tomorrow and then the case is yours. You will speak louder with your verdict than any lawyer possibly could. We will ask you to find that it was wrong for the defendants to commit fraud. Don't let them fool you. Don't let them get away with it. Hold them accountable for their actions and return a verdict for the United States. Thank you.

THE COURT: Thank you very much.

So ladies and gentlemen, you have heard the expression that it ain't over until the fat lady sings. For these purposes, I'm the fat lady. And I think we have time to give you my instructions of law today. I think that would be useful to end the day, and then you could deliberate fresh starting So I will ask my courtroom deputy to hand out to all the jurors and the court reporter so everyone has copies of my

instructions.

Ladies and gentlemen, we're going to read these together now, and then you will have them to take with you into the jury room and have them throughout your deliberations. If you turn to the table of contents, you will see the instructions are divided into three parts. First, there are general instructions. Those are all about how you go about evaluating the evidence and things like that. Then there are the instructions on the specific elements of the charge in this case, that's called the liability instructions, and then there's some concluding instructions about how you fill out your verdict form and the like.

So let's turn to the first instruction on page one.

We are now approaching the most important part of this case, your deliberations. You have heard all of the evidence in the case, as well as the final arguments of the lawyers for the parties. Before you retire to deliberate, it is my duty to instruct you as to the law that will govern your deliberations. These are the final and binding instructions, which entirely replace the preliminary instructions I gave you earlier. As I told you at the start of this case, and as you agreed, it is your duty to accept my instructions of law and apply them to the facts as you determine them.

Regardless of any opinion that you may have as to what the law may be or ought to be, it is your sworn duty to follow

the law as I give it to you. Also, if any attorney or other person has stated a legal principle different from any that I state to you in my instructions, it is my instructions that you must follow.

Because my instructions cover many points, I have provided each of you with a copy of them not only so that you can follow them as I read them to you now, but also so that you can have them with you for reference throughout your deliberations. In listening to them now and reviewing them later, you should not single out any particular instruction as alone stating the law, but you should instead consider my instructions as a whole.

Your duty is to decide the fact issues in the case and arrive, if you can, at a verdict. You, the members of the jury, are the sole and exclusive judges of facts. You pass upon the weight of the evidence; you determine the credibility of the witnesses; you resolve such conflicts as there may be in the testimony; and you draw whatever reasonable inferences you decide to draw from the facts as you determine them.

In determining the facts, you must rely upon your own recollection of the evidence. To aid your recollection, we will send you all the exhibits at the start of your deliberations, and if you need to review particular items of testimony, we can also arrange to provide them to you in transcript or readback form. But please remember that none of

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what the lawyers have said in their opening statements and their closing arguments, in their objections, or in their questions, is evidence, nor is anything I may have said evidence.

The evidence before you consists of three things: the testimony given by witnesses that was received in evidence, the exhibits that were received in evidence, and the stipulations and formal legal admissions of parties that were received in evidence.

Testimony consists of the answers that were given by the witnesses to the questions that were permitted either here in court or in the depositions that were presented. Please remember that questions, although they may provide the context for answers, are not themselves evidence, only answers are evidence, and you should therefore disregard any question to which I sustained an objection. Also, you may not consider any answer that I directed you to disregard or that I directed be stricken from the record. Likewise, you may not consider anything you heard about the contents of any exhibit that was not received in evidence. Also, you should be careful not to speculate about matters not in evidence. Rather, your focus should be entirely on assessing the evidence that was presented, and not on speculating about what other evidence, if any, might have been obtained.

It is the duty of the attorney for each party of a

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case to object when the other side offers testimony or other evidence that the attorney believes is not properly admissible or asks a question the attorney believes is inappropriate.

Counsel have the right and duty to ask the Court to make rulings of law and to request conferences at the side bar out of the hearing of the jury. All such questions of law must be decided by me. You should not show any prejudice against any attorney or party because the attorney objected to a question or to the admissibility of evidence or asked for a conference out of the hearing of the jury or asked me for a ruling on the law.

Finally, I ask you to draw no inference from my rulings or from the fact that occasionally I asked questions of certain witnesses. My rulings were no more than applications of the law, and my questions were only intended for clarification or to expedite matters. You are expressly to understand that I have no opinion as to the verdict you should render in this case.

You are to perform your duty of finding the facts without bias or prejudice or sympathy as to any party, for all parties are equal under the law. The fact that the plaintiff is the United States of America entitles it to no more or less consideration than that given any other party. Similarly, the fact that some of the defendants are corporations does not mean they are entitled to any greater or lesser consideration than

that given any other party. All parties, including the government, corporations, and individuals, stand as equals at the bar justice.

You are to perform your final duty in an attitude of complete fairness and impartiality. You are not to be swayed by rhetoric or emotional appeals. It must be clear to you that if you were to let prejudice or bias or sympathy interfere with your thinking, there would be a risk that you would not arrive at a true and just verdict. So do not be guided by anything except clear thinking and calm analysis of the evidence.

As you know, this is a civil case in which the United States, as plaintiff, is bringing a claim of fraud against several defendants. The plaintiff, as the party bringing the claim, has what we call the "burden of proof," which is the burden of establishing as to each defendant you are considering each of the essential elements of its claim by preponderance of the credible evidence.

The "credible evidence" means such testimony, exhibits, stipulations, or legal admissions that you find worthy of belief. To establish an element of a claim by a "preponderance" of the credible evidence means to prove that the element is more likely true than not true. It does not mean the greater number of witnesses, or how much time either side employs in the trial. The phrase refers to the quality of the evidence, its persuasiveness in convincing you of its

truth.

In deciding whether the government has met its burden of proof, you may consider both direct evidence and circumstantial evidence.

Direct evidence is evidence that proves a disputed fact directly. For example, where a witness testifies to what he or she saw, heard or observed, that is called direct evidence.

Circumstantial evidence is evidence that tends to prove a disputed fact by proof of other facts. To give a simple example, suppose when you came into the courthouse today the sun was shining and it was a nice day, but the courtroom blinds were drawn and you could not look outside. Then later, as you were sitting here, someone walked in with a dripping wet umbrella, and soon after someone else walked in with a dripping wet raincoat. Now, on our assumed facts, you cannot look outside the courtroom and you cannot see whether or not it is raining, so you have no direct evidence of that fact. But on the combination of the facts about the umbrella and the raincoat, it would be reasonable for you to infer that it had begun raining.

That is all there is to circumstantial evidence.

Using your reason and experience, you infer from established facts the existence or non-existence of some other fact.

Please note, however, it is not a matter of speculation or

guess, it is a matter of logical inference.

The law makes no distinction between direct and circumstantial evidence. Circumstantial evidence is of no less value than direct evidence, and you may consider either or both, and may give them such weight as you conclude is warranted.

It must be clear to you by now that counsel for the opposing parties are asking you to draw very different conclusions about various factual issues in the case. An important part of that decision will involve making judgments about the testimony of the witnesses you have listened to and observed. In making these judgments, you should carefully scrutinize all the testimony of each witness, the circumstances under which each witness testified, and any other matter in evidence that may help you decide the truth and importance of each witness's testimony.

Your decision whether or not to believe a witness may depend on how that witness impressed you. How did the witness appear to you? Was the witness candid, frank and forthright; or did the witness seem to be evasive or suspect in some way? How did the way a witness testified on direct examination compare with how the witness testified on cross-examination? Was the witness consistent, or contradictory? Did the witness appear to know what he or she was talking about? Did the witness strike you as someone who was trying to report his or

her knowledge accurately? These are examples of the kinds of common sense questions you should ask yourselves in deciding whether a witness is or is not truthful.

How much you choose to believe a witness may also be influenced by the witness's bias. Does the witness have a relationship with any of the parties that may affect how he or she testified? Does the witness have some interest, incentive, loyalty, or motive that might cause him or her to shade the truth? Does the witness have some bias, prejudice or hostility that may cause the witness to give you something other than a completely accurate account of the facts he or she testified to?

You should also consider whether the witness had an opportunity to observe the facts he or she testified about, and whether the witness's recollection of the facts stands up in light of the other evidence in the case.

In other words, what you must try to do in deciding credibility is to size up a person just as you would in any important matter where you were trying to decide if a person is truthful, straightforward and accurate in his or her recollection.

The law permits parties to offer opinion testimony from witnesses who were not involved in the underlying events of the case but who, by education or experience, have expertise in a specialized area of knowledge. In this case, Charles

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Cowan and Ira Holt were offered as such witnesses by the government, while Robert Broeksmit was offered as such a witness by the defendants. Specialized testimony is presented to you on the theory that someone who is learned in the field may be able to assist you in understanding the specialized aspects of the evidence.

However, your role in judging credibility and assessing weight applies just as much to these witnesses as to other witnesses. When you consider the specialized opinions that were received in evidence in this case, you may give them as much or as little weight as you think they deserve. example, a specialized witness necessarily bases his or her opinions, in part or in whole, on what the witness learned from others, and you may conclude the weight given the witness's opinions may be affected by how accurate or inaccurate that underlying information is. More generally, if you find that the opinions of specialized witnesses were not based on sufficient data, education or experience, or if you should conclude that the trustworthiness or credibility of such a witness is questionable, or if the opinion of the witness is outweighed in your judgment by the other evidence in the case, then you may, if you wish, disregard the opinions of that witness, either entirely or in part. On the other hand, if you find that a specialized witness is credible, and the witness's opinions are based on sufficient data, education, and

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experience, and that other evidence does not give you reason to doubt the witness's conclusions, you may, if you wish, rely on that witness's opinions and give them whatever weight you deem appropriate.

Applying the general principles that I have just discussed, you must now determine, in accordance with my instructions, whether the government has established its claim of fraud against any or all of the defendants by preponderance of the credible evidence. This is known as establishing "liability." I remind you that if liability is found as to any defendant, the issue of monetary penalties, if any are to be imposed, is an issue for the Court, not the jury.

Although there are three bank defendants here, Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., Countrywide Bank, FSB, and Bank of America, NA, you may treat them as one for your purposes, because Bank of America, NA is the successor to Countrywide Bank, FSB, which in turn took over responsibility for residential loan origination from Countrywide Home Loans, Inc. I shall therefore refer to them jointly as "Bank Defendants."

Separately, however, the government also assets its claim against an individual, Rebecca Mairone. The claim against Ms. Mairone must be decided solely on the evidence that relates to her. In that regard, you will recall that certain evidence was received with regard to the Bank Defendants but not as to Ms. Mairone, and therefore, you cannot consider such

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evidence as to her.

To establish its fraud claim against the Bank Defendants, Ms. Mairone or both, the government must establish, by a preponderance of the credible evidence, each of three elements:

First, that there existed a scheme to defraud Fannie Mae and/or Freddie Mac of money or property by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations or promises;

Second, that the defendant you are considering participated in the scheme to defraud with knowledge of its fraudulent nature and with a specific intent to defraud;

Third, that in the execution of the scheme to defraud, at least one use was made of the U.S. mails or of interstate wire communications.

We will consider these three elements in turn.

As to the first element, a "scheme to defraud" is a plan or design to obtain money or property by means of one or more false or misleading statements of a material fact. A statement is false if it is an outright lie. It is misleading if it is true as far as it goes but creates a false impression by omitting information necessary to correct the false impression. A statement is "material" if it relates to a fact that a reasonably prudent person would consider important in making a decision.

Here, specifically, the government alleges, and the

defendants deny, that one or more of the defendants devised a scheme to induce Fannie Mae and/or Freddie Mac to purchase mortgage loans originated through the High-Speed Swim Lane by misrepresenting that the loans were of higher quality than they actually were. The government further alleges that these misrepresentations were material because a reasonably prudent person participating in the decision of whether to purchase mortgage loans at Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac would have considered the true facts important in deciding whether to purchase or how to price the loans.

Incidentally, the fact that some of these alleged misrepresentations may have constituted breaches of the contracts between the Bank Defendants and Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac is neither here nor there, your focus should be on whether there was a scheme to defraud.

While the government must prove that the scheme to defraud Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac existed, the government is not required to prove that the scheme to defraud actually succeeded, that a given defendant personally benefited from the scheme to defraud, that Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac actually suffered any loss as a result of the scheme to defraud, or that Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac were themselves free from fault.

As to the second element, that the defendant you are considering participated at some point in the scheme knowingly and with a specific intent to defraud, to act "knowingly" means

to act consciously and deliberately rather than mistakenly or inadvertently, but in this context it also means that the defendant had knowledge that the defendant was participating in a fraudulent scheme. It is not enough that the defendant you are considering may have participated in a fraudulent scheme carelessly, negligently, or otherwise unknowingly. Similarly, to act with a specific intent to defraud requires that the given defendant you are considering purposely intended to deceive and harm either Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac or both by seeking to sell them mortgage loans or by seeking to affect the pricing of those loans through false or misleading representations.

As to the Bank Defendants, such an intent can be imputed to them if, but only if, at least one of three managerial persons, Rebecca Mairone, Clifford Kitashima or Greg Lumsden, participated in such a fraudulent scheme with such intent. Ms. Mairone, however, can be found personally liable only if she personally participated in such a fraudulent scheme with such intent.

As to the third element, that in the execution of the scheme to defraud at least one use was made of the U.S. mails or of interstate wire communication, such interstate communication includes, among other things, telephone calls and emails that travel between two states. It is not necessary that the interstate wire communication or use of the mails

itself contain a fraudulent representation; rather, it is 1 2 3 4 5

sufficient if it was used to further or assist in carrying out the scheme to defraud. Also, to "cause" the use of the mail or interstate wire communication, it is not necessary for a given defendant to be directly or personally involved in sending the mail or interstate communication, as long as the communication was reasonably foreseeable in the execution of the scheme to

defraud. 8

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You will shortly retire to the jury room to begin your deliberations. As soon as you get to the jury room, please select one of your number as the foreperson to preside over your deliberations and to serve as your spokesperson if you need to communicate with the Court.

You will be bringing with you into the jury room a copy of my instructions of law, and a verdict form on which to record your verdict.

Let me pause there, ladies and gentlemen, and show you the verdict form. It's a very simple, one-page document, and it asks you just two questions, whether the Bank Defendants are liable or not liable, and whether Ms. Mairone is liable or not liable. You will check the appropriate box, and then whoever is your foreperson will sign it, date it, seal it in this envelope very cleverly marked "Verdict," and that will be brought to me by the marshal, and I will not open it until you come back into the courtroom, and then we will open it and I

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will ask each of you individually if that is your verdict. And the reason we go through all those formalities is to be absolutely sure we have your verdict as you decided.

Let's go back to the instructions.

In addition, we will send into the jury room all of the exhibits that were admitted into evidence, along with indices to the exhibits. If you want to see any of the video depositions replayed, let us know and we will bring you back to the courtroom for that purpose. If you want any of the other testimony, that can also be provided in transcript or readback form, but please remember that it is not always easy to locate what you might want, so be as specific as you possibly can in requesting portions of testimony.

Any of your questions, in fact any communication with the Court, should be made to me in writing signed by your foreperson and given to the marshal who will be available outside the jury room throughout your deliberations. After consulting with counsel, I will respond to any question or request you have as promptly as possible, either in writing or by having you return to the courtroom so that I can speak with you in person.

You should not, however, tell me or anyone else how the jury stands on any issue until you have reached your verdict and recorded it on your verdict form.

Each of you must decide the case for yourself after

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consideration with your fellow jurors of the evidence in the case, and your verdict must be unanimous. In deliberating, bear in mind that while each juror is entitled to his or her opinion, each should exchange views with his or her fellow That is the very purpose of jury deliberation, to discuss and consider the evidence, to listen to the arguments of fellow jurors, to present your individual views, to consult with one another, and to reach a verdict based solely and wholly on the evidence.

If, after carefully considering all the evidence and the arguments of your fellow jurors, you entertain a conscientious view that differs from the others, you are not to yield your view simply because you are outnumbered. On the other hand, you should not hesitate to change or modify an earlier opinion which, after discussion with your fellow jurors, now appears to you to be erroneous.

In short, your verdict must reflect your individual views and must also be unanimous.

This completes my instructions of law.

So ladies and gentlemen, we're now going to swear the marshal who will be safeguarding you throughout your deliberations. You will then return to the jury room, and the only thing you need to do today is select your foreperson. you can leave, go home, and when you come back at 9:30 tomorrow morning to begin your deliberations, it will be up to your

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foreperson to make sure that all ten of you are in the jury room before you start your deliberations. That's the foreperson's job. We'll make sure that all the exhibits and the indices are waiting there for you.

So let's swear in the marshal.

(Marshal sworn)

DEPUTY CLERK: Jurors, please follow the marshal.

(Jury retired, time noted, 4:55 p.m.)

(Jury not present)

THE COURT: I will note for the record that any objections that were previously made to my charge are deemed to have been remade at this time so that they're fully preserved for appeal.

Anything else that counsel needs to raise with the Court?

Let me tell you my practices with respect to jury deliberation. I want at all times beginning at 9:30 at least one lawyer from each party who is authorized to respond to any jury note present on this floor. You can be in the courtroom or you can be out in the hallway, but you cannot be anywhere else. That's so that when we get a note we can respond immediately, we don't have to go searching for you folks. exception will be between 1:00 and 2:00 p.m. when you are excused for lunch.

I will also give my law clerk to give to my courtroom

deputy a copy of my charge to be docketed as Court Exhibit Number 1.

And the only other thing I want to say is to me it is always thrilling to hear such fine summations as I heard in this case. This is what the legal process is all about:

Tough-minded but fair-minded professionals having worked hard to present their cases bring it all together in a way that I thought on the part of all lawyers was crystal clear and immensely helpful to the jury in reaching their determination. So you have the thanks of the Court for those very excellent closing arguments.

We'll see you tomorrow at 9:30.

(Adjourned to October 23, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.)